When drought devastated the Prairies

CANADA'S HISTORY

FORMERL E BEAVER

2012 Book & Gift Guide

WHO REALLY WON *the* WAR *of* 1812?

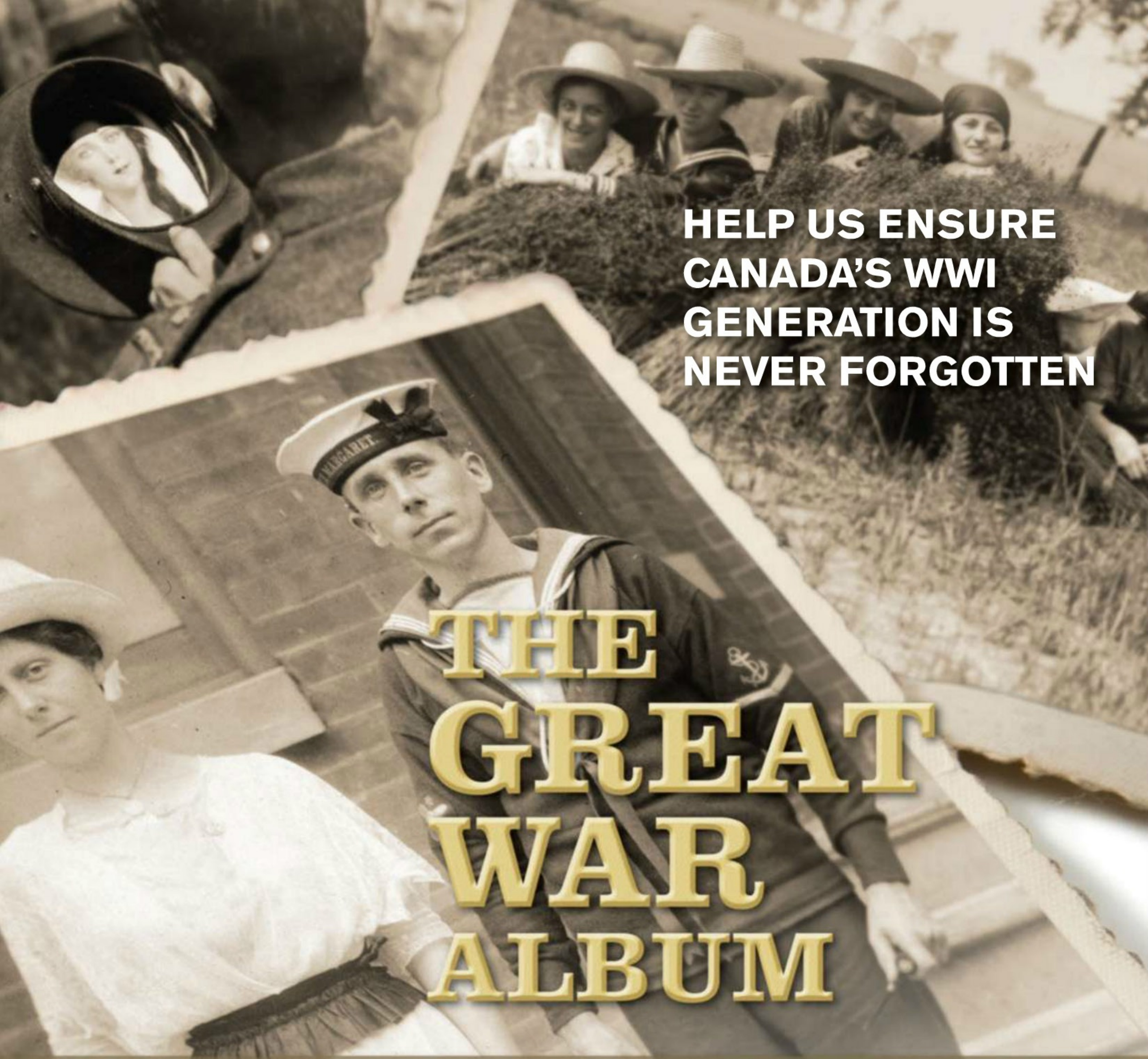
WE REVEAL THE **WINNERS** — AND THE CLEAR **LOSER**

+

Gimme Shelter
Fallout fear grips Canada

Yuletide tales
Early Christmas inspirations

DEC 2012- JAN 2013
$ 6.95
CANADASHISTORY.CA
PM40063001
Display until January 28


HELP US ENSURE CANADA'S WWI GENERATION IS NEVER FORGOTTEN
THE GREAT WAR ALBUM

SEND MATERIALS TO:

Canada's History
Bryce Hall, Main Floor
515 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB, R3B 2E9

FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS, AND FOR MORE DETAILS, GO TO:

CanadasHistory.ca/GreatWarAlbum

It's been nearly 100 years since the "War to End All Wars." And while the veterans are gone, their memory lives on.

In 2014, **Canada's History** will honour the men and women who together helped win WWI with a new book, **Canada's Great War Album.**

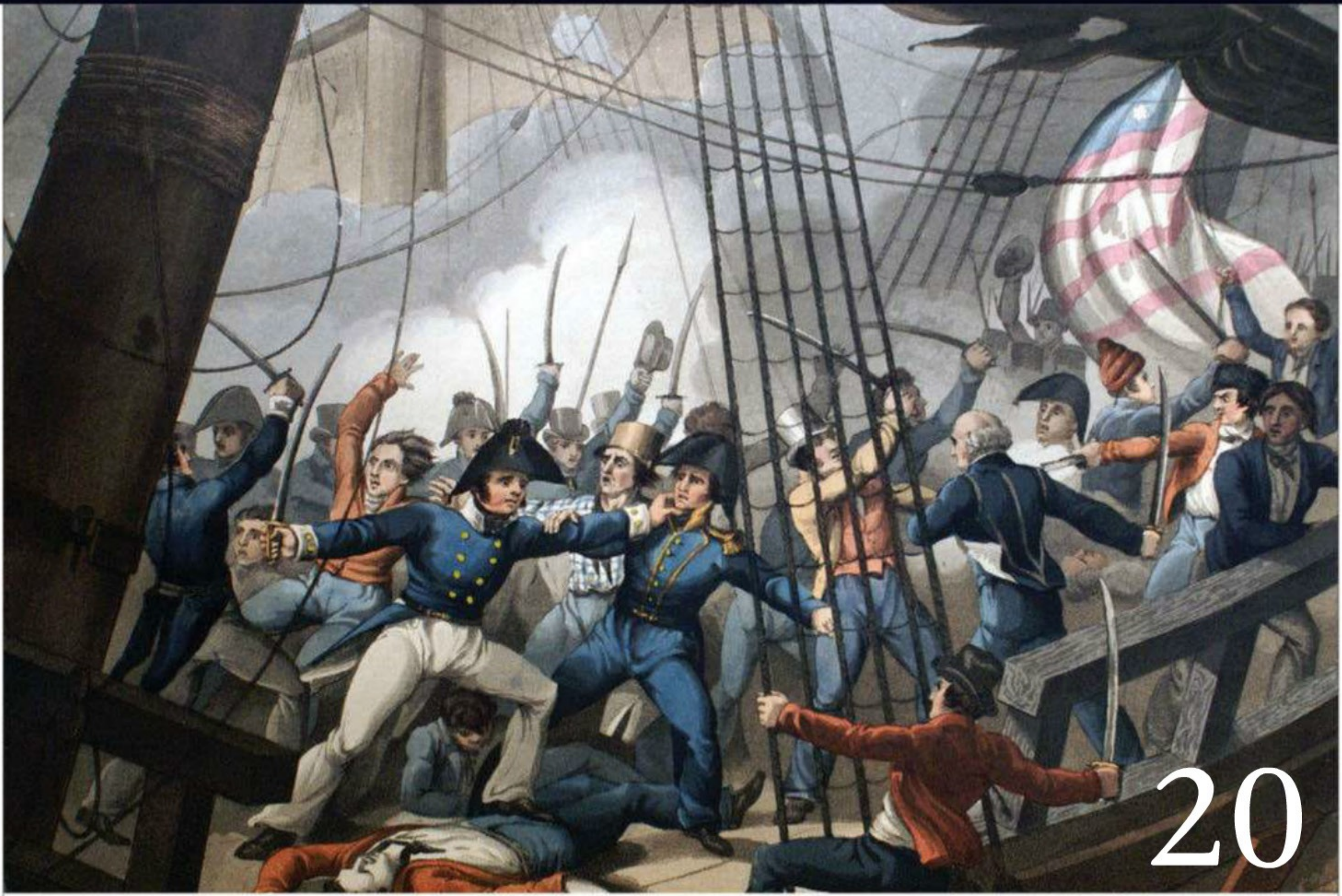
We need your help.

Send us your family's WWI photos, letters, or mementoes and we'll include them in our new book. From the front lines, to the homefront – help ensure these great Canadians are never forgotten.

CANADA'S HISTORY

CONTENTS

Vol 92 : 6



Features

20 Who won the War of 1812?
The victor in this conflict is disputed, but everyone agrees on who lost. *by Donald E. Graves*

28 Arctic Ambitions
Canada and other nations needed a mechanism to discuss the future of the North. They found it in the Arctic Council. *by John English*

32 The Great Trek North
The dirty thirties prompted one of the biggest northward migrations in Canadian history. *by Merle Massie*

40 Gimme Shelter
Although it became an enduring Cold War icon, somehow the fallout shelter never caught on in Canada. *by Andrew Burtch*

48 Missionary Martyrs
The little-known story of three Canadian Jesuits who died protecting Chinese civilians from their Japanese occupiers. *by John Meehan*

52 A Family Herald Christmas
Many of Canada's yuletide traditions can be traced back to an influential Montreal weekly. *by David Goss*

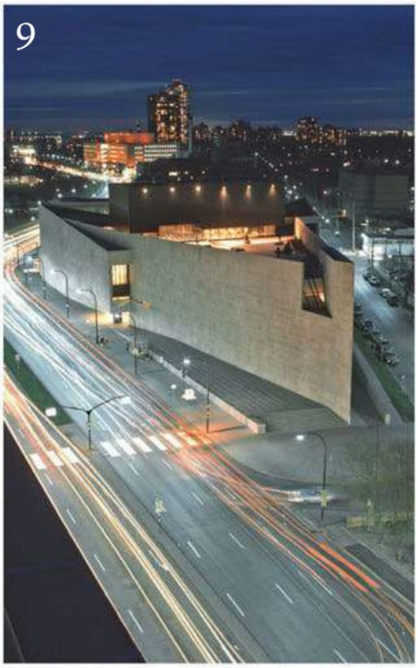
40
Your
BASEMENT FALLOUT
SHELTER

PHOTOS: ANDREW WORKMAN/IMAGE ALTERATION MICHEL GROLEAU

CONTENTS

9

9



70

Departments

7 Letters Questionable legacy. Matrimonial memories. Rascals and rogues.

12 Explorations Remembering the legacy of Alberta's political titan, Peter Lougheed.

14 Christopher Moore Celebrating the life's work of historian P.B. Waite.

17 Ken McGoogan Our Scottish-Quebecer columnist takes exception to being called an "Anglo" in his home province.

54 Trading Post A special Hudson's Bay Company knife. Plus, stories from ninety years of *The Beaver* magazine.

55 Reviews Soul searching, Arctic conquests, and more. Plus, our annual Book & Gift Guide.

65 History Matters Celebrating the winners of the 2012 Governor General's History Awards.

70 Your Story How a Manitoba writer's great-great-grandfather fought Louis Riel — and won.

72 Getaway Quebec's Lachine Canal offers visitors a scenic tour through the province's past.

74 Album The men who ran British Columbia's sled dog mail service had to be hardy.

Currents

8 Our home and native. The telephone.

8 Photographic memory An Ontario church was relocated as part of the St. Lawrence Seaway project.

9 Laugh lines Caught in the middle during the Cold War.

9 By the numbers Canada's oldest civic art gallery.

10 News A popular Gatineau, Quebec, institution is to be renamed the Canadian Museum of History.

11 News Military history journal struggles to continue operating following funding cuts.

EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE AT: CANADASHISTORY.CA

The Beaver
A Journal of Progress

Christmas traditions
The Beaver shares twenty historic yuletide celebrations from the fur trade posts.

And coming in January...
Baby, it's Cold War outside.

Get Noticed!

More than 767,000 people read each issue of Canada's History

Contact
Nick R. Cino
647-296-5348
ads@CanadasHistory.ca

Online Customer Care

Exciting changes are coming to Canada's History online!

Our Customer Care site will be under construction during the month of January 2013.
For assistance during that time, please call Customer Service at 1-888-816-0997

CanadasHistory.ca

Make a Difference

A Planned Gift to Canada's History society helps to ensure the future of programs and services offered that directly benefit the next generation of Canadians.

Get more information at CanadasHistory.ca

CANADA'S HISTORY

CANADA'S HISTORY

BRYCE HALL MAIN FLOOR, 515 PORTAGE AVENUE WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, R3B2E9
TEL.: 1.888.816.0997 • FAX: 204.988.9309 • INFO@CANADASHISTORY.CA

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Mark Reid

SENIOR EDITOR
Nelle Oosterom

ART DIRECTOR
Michel Groleau

NEWS AND REVIEWS EDITOR
Phil Koch

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Beverley Tallon

PUBLISHER, PRESIDENT AND CEO
Deborah Morrison

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Linda Onofreychuk

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
Patricia Gerow

CIRCULATION AND MARKETING MANAGER
Danielle Chartier

CIRCULATION CONSULTANTS
P.J. Brown, Etatech Consulting
Scott Bullock, Circ3 Solutions

NEW MEDIA MANAGER
Joel Ralph

NEW MEDIA EDITOR
Tanja Hütter

WEB DESIGNER
James Gillespie

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Andrew Workman

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COORDINATOR
Jean-Philippe Proulx

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR
Joanna Dawson

CANADA'S HISTORY SOCIETY

Canada's History Society was founded in 1994 to popularize Canadian history. The society's work includes: *Canada's History* magazine, *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids*, CanadasHistory.ca, and the Governor General's History Awards.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard W. Pound, Chair
Gordon Barnhart*
John Bennett
Tim Cook*
Alex Graham
Paul Jones*
Jacques Lacoursière, *
Stéphane Lévesque
Chris Peirce
Lawrie Pollard*
Karen Prentice
David Ross

*Publications Committee

ADVISORY COUNCIL

E. James Arnett
Charlie Baillie
Doug Barrington
Elsa Franklin
Charlotte Gray
John Honderich
Don Newman
Peter C. Newman
Thomas H.B. Symons
Jane Urquhart

Publisher Emeritus
Rolph Huband

President Emeritus
Joseph E. Martin

Canada's History magazine was founded by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1920 under the name *The Beaver: A Journal of Progress*. The HBC's commitment to the History Society and its programs continues today through the HBC History Foundation.

Editorial guidelines can be found on our website.
We assume no responsibility for unsolicited material.

©2012 Canada's History Society.
All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission of the publisher is strictly forbidden.

ISSN 1920-9894

Member Services
Canada's History, PO Box 1274, Station K,
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 3E5 Canada
Phone: 1-888-816-0997
Fax: (416) 932-2488
E-mail: memberservices@canadashistory.ca

Annual Subscription (6 issues):
Canada, $32.95 (GST included).
Please add $10 a year for U.S. orders and $18 a year for foreign orders.
Single copy price: $6.95

GST Registration Number: 13868 1408 RT

Advertising Representatives:
Nick R. Cino
Rocket Science Media
Phone: (647) 296-5348
E-mail: ads@CanadasHistory.ca

Mailing Preference
Occasionally, we may provide our subscriber list to external organizations that may have products or services of interest to our readers. Subscribers have the right to request their names not be used for such third-party purposes. If you do not wish to receive such communications, please contact Member Services.

Canadian Postmaster:
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
Canada's History,
PO Box 1274, Station K,
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 3E5 Canada

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40063001

Postage paid in Winnipeg.

Issued December 2012
Printed in Canada

MIX Paper from responsible sources FSC® C011825

Audit Bureau of Circulations

mmpa

Magazines Canada

DISTRIBUTED BY CoasttoCoast

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities.

Canada

EDITOR'S NOTE

Winners take all

They're found in downtown Toronto, a short musket volley's distance from historic Fort York: two statues — toy soldiers both — that together symbolize the continuing controversy surrounding the War of 1812.

Unveiled in November 2008, Douglas Coupland's *Monument to the War of 1812* has been both praised and panned. It depicts a golden toy soldier — symbolizing Canada — standing over a silver American soldier that has been knocked to the ground.

MARIANNE HELM

Former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, present for its unveiling, described the piece as "wonderful." But some critics aren't as fond of Coupland's edgy vision. (Personally, I like it — it's playful, and it's certainly a conversation-starter. But I do agree with *NOW* magazine's Debbie O'Rourke, who complains about the lack of Aboriginal representation in Coupland's piece.)

Some of the criticism I've read centres on the artist's decision to make the Canadian soldier the winner of the War of 1812. After all, Toronto's main claim to fame during the war was getting sacked and burned by the Americans during a raid in late April 1813. And gloating over our "victory" in the War of 1812 seems, well, a tad too American for some people's liking.

Could the critics be right? Is it somehow un-Canadian to claim victory over our American cousins? The brouhaha surrounding the statues certainly proves that this two-hundred-year-old war can still provoke strong emotions from all sides.

But the question remains — did we really win the conflict? The simple fact that Canada exists at all is evidence for our case. If we had lost the war, then we'd be Americans today.

Then again, the United States declared war on Britain in part to end the impressment of its sailors by the Royal Navy. By the time the Treaty of Ghent ended the war in 1814, impressment had stopped. So maybe the Americans have bragging rights.

Who really won? In this issue, military historian and author Donald E. Graves weighs the arguments and reveals his choices for the war's winners and losers. His picks may surprise you.

Now, some have called the War of 1812 a sideshow skirmish of the larger Napoleonic war that at the time gripped Europe. But to those caught in the crossfire, the 1812 war was a vicious affair, with crops and communities put to the torch, and atrocities committed by all sides. It was a small war with huge ramifications for the future of North America.

***

The year 2014 will mark the centennial of the start of the First World War. To commemorate this, *Canada's History* is pleased to announce a new publishing collaboration with HarperCollins Canada. *Canada's Great War Album* will feature a compelling collection of stories and images about the men and women who lived, loved, and fought during the Great War.

To make the book truly special, we hope to use materials contributed from you, our readers. Please search your family's albums and send us your Great War-related photos, letters, and artifacts. From the front lines to the home front, help us ensure the Great War generation is never forgotten. For more details, please see the ad in this issue or go to CanadasHistory.ca.

Mark Reid

Contributors

Andrew Burtch wrote about Canada's Cold War fallout shelter phase in "Gimme Shelter." He is the Canadian War Museum's historian for the post-1945 period and is the curator of Gallery 4: A Violent Peace, relating to conflicts from the Cold War to the present day. Burtch's first book was *Give Me Shelter: The Failure of Canada's Nuclear Civil Defence Program, 1945–1963*.

Donald E. Graves, author of "Who Won the War of 1812?," is a Canadian historian who has written or edited eight books and dozens of articles on War of 1812 topics. His most recent is *First Campaign of an A.D.C.: The War of 1812 Memoir of Lieutenant William Jenkins Worth, United States Army.* He is currently working on the final volume of his trilogy, *Forgotten Soldiers: The War of 1812 in the North.*

Merle Massie wrote "The Great Trek North." She is an environmental historian with a focus on place studies. She is working on two books: The first is about the forest edge north of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan; the second is on climate refugees during the 1930s. Massie is also a post-doctoral fellow at the School of Environment and Sustainability at the University of Saskatchewan.

John D. Meehan, S.J., Ph.D., wrote "Missionary Martyrs." An assistant professor of history at Campion College at the University of Regina, he is the author of numerous articles and books on the history of Canada's relations with Asia. These include *Chasing the Dragon in Shanghai: Canada's Relations with China, 1858–1952* and *The Dominion and the Rising Sun: Canada Encounters Japan, 1929–1941*.

Questionable legacy

I enjoyed reading Richard Gwyn's essay ["Canada's Father Figure," October-November 2012] based upon his latest book about Sir John A. Macdonald, *Nation Maker* (2011). Also, I appreciated the perceptive book review written by Deborah Morrison. Gwyn is to be commended particularly for searching out and then sharing new information about our first prime minister.

Many intriguing questions remain unanswered surrounding Prime Minister Macdonald's involvement with the establishment and operation of Indian Residential Schools.

I view him as connected in at least two ways: first, by reinforcing the cultural beliefs and practices of the time, especially as they applied to the perceived "Indian Problem," and second, by being instrumental in setting the general guiding ethos and operational "shape" for the residential school system.

I have no doubt he would have been a strong proponent for contracting church agencies to operate the schools. The Christianizing process would be considered a logical part of the broader civilizing process.

Finally, a comment concerning Richard Gwyn's uncovering of Macdonald's efforts to help women gain the right to vote. Gwyn speaks glowingly about his subject being a man far ahead of his time. But to Macdonald, the word "women" used in this political context was culturally defined. Aboriginal females who had not given up their status rights didn't qualify.

We must continue to ponder whether Macdonald was a man far ahead of his time or simply a man of his time? I share Morrison's skepticism about Gwyn's strong endorsement of Macdonald the progressive.

For me, Sir John A. remains an enigmatic figure with inconsistent tendencies and a person more imprisoned by cultural blinders than free from them.

CEC RACE
NORTH VANCOUVER,
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Matrimonial memories

Today I read aloud the "Bridal Path" [August-September 2012] article by Beverley Tallon to my ninety-year-old mother, Pearl Webber Cahill. Stories of bridal gowns inspired questions from me about her wedding dress, which in turn led to my mother sharing her memories of life in Noranda, Quebec, in 1940, the year of her marriage.

My parents married June 27, 1940, at Our Lady of Protection Roman Catholic Church in Noranda (still standing at the corner of Murdoch Avenue and seventh Street). Mother wore a new turquoise dress with a white hat and white gloves, and Dad (Joe Cahill) wore his Sunday-best suit. The Mass took place at 6:00 a.m. because the priest was busy later in the day. Afterwards, the bridal party celebrated with breakfast at Hotel Albert.

MARY C. CAHILL
HAMILTON, ONTARIO

Rascals and rogues

I simply loved Paul Jones' genealogy column "Coming Clean" in the October-November 2012 issue. I have read others on the topic, and even written one myself, but none so good as this. Times certainly have changed.

I recall accompanying a college roommate to be fitted for her wedding dress, as she "had" to be married. She apologized to her aunt, as "nothing like this has ever happened in our family before." "Don't be so sure," was the quick reply.

I like to say we get our surname through the matrilineal line, rather than quoting the birth records that stated, variously, "illegitimate" or "father unknown." But nothing is more delicious to genealogists today than to find a really, truly bad ancestor. Ours is one who successfully blackmailed the "Prince of Pleasure" (later George IV) during the late-eighteenth century and was paid off handsomely to get out of London for the rest of his life.

As an amateur genealogist, my following of that line has been very rewarding. He was a real rogue, a true black sheep.

Of course, these ancestors are all on my husband's line. Mine are without fault.

GAIL BENJAFIELD
ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO

Moniker matters

As a long time reader of *The Beaver* I was pleased to see the words "Formerly the Beaver" under "Canada's History" on the cover. I thought a part of history was lost when you changed the title of the magazine. And while I am at it I would like to compliment you upon the well-written and well-researched articles I find in *Canada's History*. It is a pleasure to read.

FRANK POPE
OTTAWA

Clever campaign

The 1972 Summit Series will forever be our defining sports moment. One memory I have is a huge newspaper ad, which came out the day of the first game. It read: "If the Russians can play hockey, we can make vodka," and was accompanied by the picture of an Alberta Vodka bottle. After that first game, the ad was repeated, with the word "If" crossed out with an "X." It now read: "The Russians can play hockey. We can make vodka." I've always admired the marketing genius that came up with this.

TER HAMER
PEACE RIVER, ALBERTA

Sister act

In your story on Elizabeth II, under the picture showing her as a child with her family, you stated she was one year older than Margaret. They were four years apart in age. Their birthdays were: Elizabeth, April 26, 1926, and Margaret Rose, August 21, 1930. I saw her drive by in front of our home in St. John's during her 1959 tour.

ELIZABETH HOBBS
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND

Canada's History welcomes reader's comments. Email us at editors@CanadasHistory.ca or write to *Canada's History*, Bryce Hall Main Floor, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, Canada, R3B 2E9. Please include your address and phone number. Letters may be edited for clarity or length.

OUR HOME & NATIVE

Telephone

Today, innovations in telecommunications come non-stop, but 1876 takes the cake for producing the advancement that forever changed how we communicate. And we have an adopted Canadian to thank.

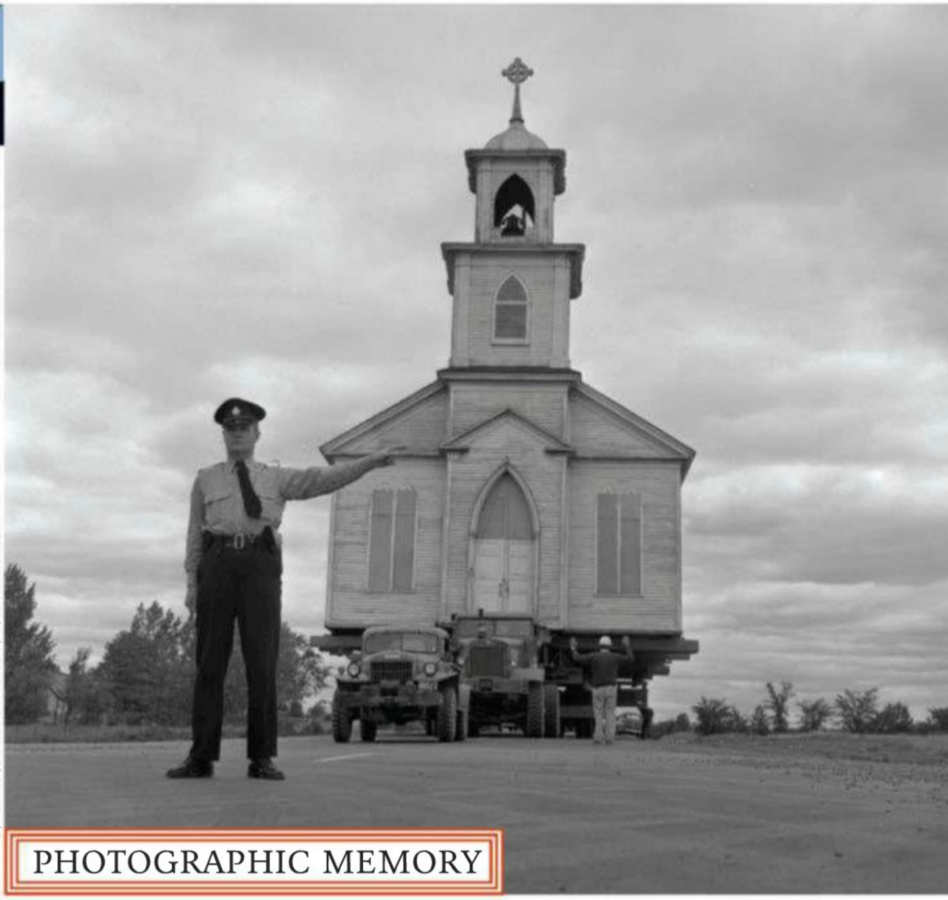
Famed inventor Alexander Graham Bell was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1847. He immigrated to Brantford, Ontario, with his parents in 1870. Bell's interest in sound stemmed from his work alongside his father as a speech therapist; he taught deaf students to speak by feeling sound through vibrations.

His work toward the creation of the telephone began as a side project. Bell had been contracted to improve upon Samuel Morse's 1837 invention, the telegraph. Bell's telephone encoded sound wave variations into an electrical current and allowed real-time exchanges.

Human voice was transmitted over wire for the first time in 1876, with Bell's famous words to his assistant, "Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you." Despite fierce industry competition, Bell won patent disputes with inventors Elisha Gray, Thomas Edison, and others.

In 1880, the Bell Telephone Company of Canada was incorporated and received authority to build telephone lines on and over public property and rights-of-way. The company, now known as Bell Canada Enterprises, remains a major player in Canada's telecommunications industry.

— Sandy Klowak



DUNCAN CAMERON / LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA / E010900463

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY

Moving Moulinette Church

Iroquois, Ontario, August 12, 1957
Duncan Cameron collection

In 1954, the government began preparing land in the St. Lawrence area for flooding as part of the St. Lawrence Seaway project, which at the time was the largest project of its kind.

As part of this preparation, the buildings from ten communities were moved to form new towns and neighbourhoods or were demolished (remaining rubble now serves as markers for divers). The tombstones from the pioneer cemeteries and some of the historic buildings were relocated to a site that was to become the foundation of Upper Canada Village.

Duncan Cameron was one of many photographers who captured this process that spanned three years. His work and that of several others who photographed the project, including Walter Curtin and Rosemary Gilliat-Eaton, is housed within the collection of Library and Archives Canada.

Selected by Library and Archives Canada photo archivist Shannon Perry.

TAKE THE DAY OFF

DESCRIPTION
GEOGRAPHIQUE
ET HISTORIQUE
DES COSTES
DE L'AMERIQVE
SEPTENTRIONALE.
TOME I.
A PARIS,
M. DC. LXXII.

December 3

To observe the day in 1653 when Nicholas Denys purchased the rights to islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence before being made the French governor of the region. Go island-hopping.

December 13

To note the day in 1785 when Loyalists petitioned Governor Thomas Carleton for an academy of arts and science that eventually became the University of New Brunswick. Read a good book.

LAUGH LINES

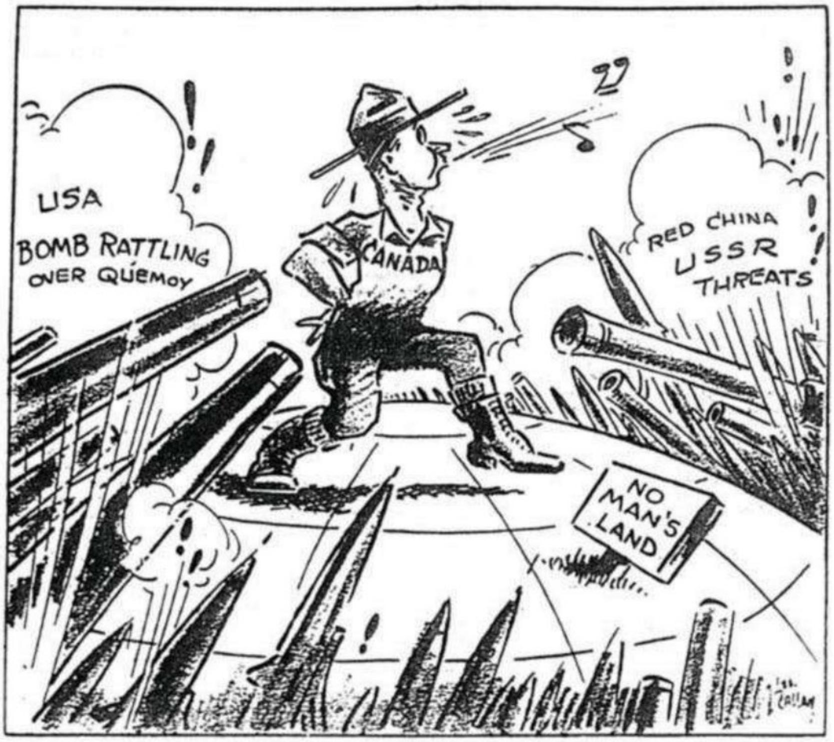
Fingers crossed

In 1958, tensions grew between the United States and China over the Taiwanese offshore island of Quemoy. The U.S. supported Taiwan while China was supported by the Soviet Union.

If open hostilities had broken out between the major superpowers, Canada's geographical position would have put it in the middle of the conflict. Canada found itself in the same position when other Cold War disputes occurred over Berlin, Korea, Hungary, Cuba, and Vietnam.

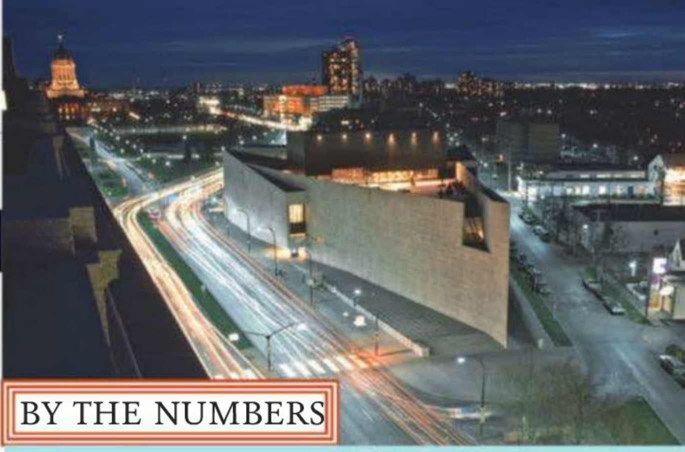
Canadian diplomats did their best to prevent any of these disputes from escalating into war, but the possibility often forced Canada to take sides, such as when it joined NATO and NORAD. In cases like Quemoy, Canada wasn't quite neutral, as portrayed in this Les Callan cartoon. **— Charles Hou**

Charles Hou is the author of several books about historical Canadian political cartoons.



SO NICE TO KNOW "WE'RE NOT INVOLVED"

This cartoon by Les Callan appeared in the September 18, 1958, edition of the *Toronto Daily Star*.



WINNIPEG ART GALLERY

BY THE NUMBERS

Winnipeg Art Gallery

The Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG) is Canada's oldest civic art gallery. It officially opened on December 16, 1912, and was then called the Winnipeg Museum of Fine Arts. The gallery moved in 1971 to a new triangular building that was designed by Portuguese-Canadian architect Gustavo da Roza and built from reinforced concrete and Tyndall stone.

4.5 million Cost in dollars of the new gallery completed in 1971.

18 Maximum weight in tonnes that can be carried by the WAG's freight elevators.

50 Relative humidity, in per cent, maintained in the WAG's display and storage areas.

21 Years Ferdinand Eckhart spent as WAG director, beginning in 1953.

50,000 Number of visitors to the 1962 Vincent van Gogh exhibit, which featured over 120 works by the Dutch master.

19 Paintings in the Lord and Lady Gort Collection, including fifteenth- and sixteenth-century wood panels that once formed portions of altarpieces in European churches.

11,000 Pieces in the WAG's Inuit art collection, the world's largest public collection of its kind.

3 Entrance fee, in dollars, when the WAG first started charging admission in 1991.

— Laina Hughes

December 15

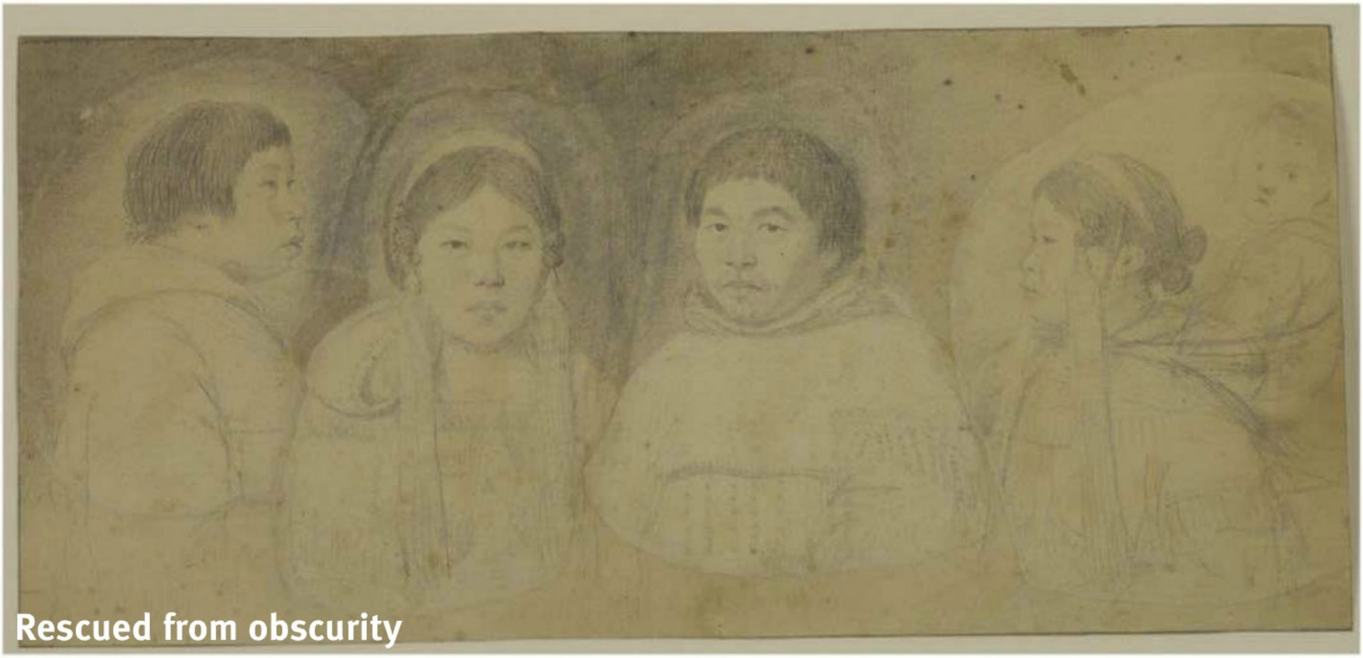
To celebrate the day in 1902 when the first transatlantic radio message was sent from Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, to England. Send a text.

January 1

To mark the day in 1954 when Metropolitan Toronto was formed from the city and surrounding municipalities. Go the whole Hogtown.

January 15

To remember the adoption of the protectionist National Policy by John A. Macdonald's Liberal-Conservative Party on this date in 1878. Mend some fences.



Rescued from obscurity

© THE HUNTERIAN MUSEUM AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND – RCSSC/HDB/2/2/180

This previously lost pencil drawing by an unknown artist shows a group of Labrador Inuit brought to England in 1772 by Captain George Cartwright. From left to right are Tooklavinia, Caubvick, Attuiock, and Ickongoque, with her child Ickeuna. Parks Canada historian Marianne P. Stopp had read about the portrait, but its existence was unconfirmed and its whereabouts had been unknown for two centuries. Then, in 2008, she came across the drawing in the newly digitized collection of the Hunterian Museum at The Royal College of Surgeons in London, where she was conducting research into early Inuit presence in Labrador. "The detailed descriptions that exist about each of these Inuit in other documents can now be tied to imagery, which is a rare occurrence in the Aboriginal history of Canada," Stopp said. She believes the portrait wound up in the museum's collection via the anatomist and surgeon John Hunter, who hosted the Inuit travellers. To read more about Stopp's work on the Labrador Inuit's eighteenth-century journeys to England, visit CanadasHistory.ca/InuitDrawing.

Civilization museum gets historic twist

Museums across the country expected to share historical collections

Canada's largest national museum is undergoing a major makeover that will see it renamed and given a new focus on Canadian history.

Federal Heritage Minister James Moore announced in October that the Canadian Museum of Civilization is to be renamed the Canadian Museum of History and will be provided with funding for significant renovations in advance of the country's 150th birthday in 2017.

"Canadians deserve a national museum of history that tells our stories and presents our country's treasures to the world," Moore said.

With $25 million in one-time funding, the museum will undertake the remodelling of half of its permanent exhibition space before 2017. As part of its new mandate, the museum is also expected to invest in a pan-Canadian museums network to ensure that national historical artifacts and collections are showcased across the country.

The rebranded museum — based in Gatineau, Quebec — will display objects such as explorer Samuel de Champlain's astrolabe, the Last Spike from the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and items from Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope, as well as portraits and artifacts related to many other Canadians of historical significance.

"Canadians, as well as visitors from around the world, will leave the museum with a deeper appreciation of Canada's unique and fascinating national journey," said Canadian Museum of Civilization Corporation president and CEO Mark O'Neill.

Formerly known as the National Museum of Man, the Canadian Museum of Civilization is the country's most visited museum. In 1989 it moved from Ottawa to its current location, a Douglas Cardinal-designed building that sits across the Ottawa

Journal's future uncertain

Laurier Centre's flagship military history publication struggles to stay afloat

Canada's foremost military history journal is in danger of going under after its federal funding came to an end.

Canadian Military History (*CMH*) has been in existence since 1992. Started by Terry Copp, a prominent military historian at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, it came into existence at a time when serious study of Canadian military history was not in vogue.

The quarterly journal helped to change that by giving many of today's leading historians an opportunity to publish their first articles. It has also served as an outlet for more seasoned academics.

But *CMH* faces a money crunch, says Copp. Funding from the Department of National Defence was cut in 2011, and the journal, as well as the Laurier Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies it is connected with, have since limped along with support from private donors to the tune of about $100,000 a year.

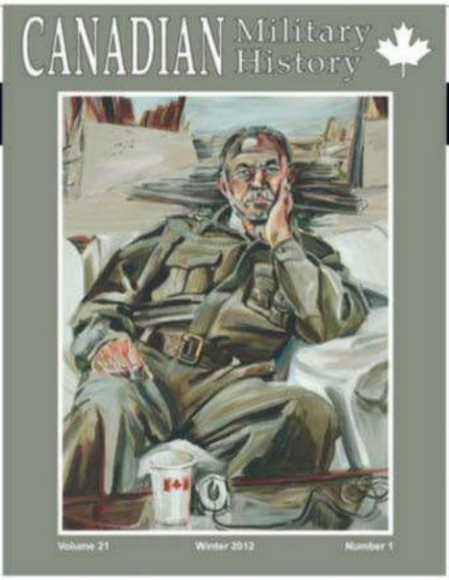
The centre needs at least $125,000 to cover base administration costs and about $200,000 to cover all of its programming.

"We are OK in the short run," says Copp. "I've been able to raise enough private money. But I am borrowing against the future. I would say we are probably good until 2015."

Over the years, the journal has featured articles that shed new light on past events. For instance, was the sinking of HMCS *Athabaskan* off the coast of France in April 1944 the work of German destroyers, or was it accidentally torpedoed by the British? How did Worthington Force, a mixed battle group of Canadian tanks and infantry, get lost and then destroyed in Normandy?

In addition to putting out the journal, the centre also publishes battlefield tour guidebooks, puts on an annual military history colloquium, organizes battlefield study tours, and runs lecture series.

The centre's current priority is to digitize its archives, an extensive collection of documents, maps, photos, films, and other materials. The centre has just one full-time employee — managing editor Michael Bechthold — with the rest of the work split among eight others, mostly graduate students, who work part-time or on a voluntary basis.



There is currently a push on for new journal subscribers — there are now about six hundred — and donors.

For information on how to subscribe, go to CanadasHistory.ca/MilitaryJournal. New subscribers will receive a free copy of *The Canadian Battlefields in Italy: Ortona and the Liri Valley* by Eric McGeer and Matt Symes. The book contains never-seen-before historical and aerial photos of the Ortona campaign, which is often referred to as Canada's Stalingrad.

— **Nelle Oosterom**

River from Parliament Hill.

Among the questions now facing the museum is which national stories it should be telling. Some public reaction has been skeptical, with many people expressing concerns over the potential for the project to be politicized.

However, Canadian historian Michael Bliss, a recent appointee to the museum's board of directors, noted that the museum will have no choice but to consult broadly in regard to its reshaping. "Every Canadian historian and every history buff will be watching to see how their terrific opportunity is realized over the next few years," he said.

Canada's History Society president and CEO Deborah Morrison agrees with Bliss. "The potential for the new museum to help create a national framework for our history is compelling. The time is right," she said.

The museum has set up a schedule of public consultations that will be held in ten cities. Events in Toronto and Montreal are scheduled for December. For more on the project, to get involved with the consultations, or to participate in an online survey, visit CanadasHistory.ca/NewMuseum.

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION

The Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec, is to become the Canadian Museum of History.

Alberta's political titan

Former Premier Peter Lougheed made a giant impact on his province — and on Canada. by Don Newman

Listening to Governor General Jules Léger in 1974, Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed heard something he didn't like.

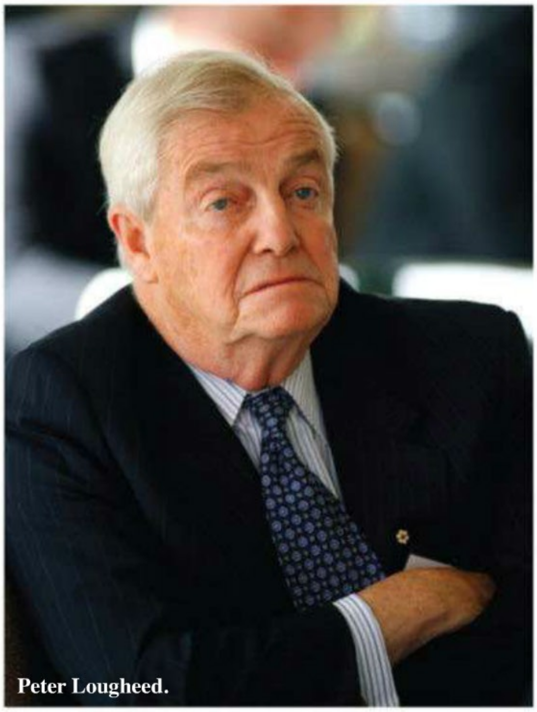
Canada, the Governor General said, was a fortunate country and one reason was because it was a developed country that still had a "hinterland." That word made Lougheed bristle. He knew where Léger thought the hinterland lay — in the interior of British Columbia and in the Prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.

Elected three years earlier on a pledge to modernize Alberta, Lougheed had ended a thirty-six-year electoral reign by the Social Credit Party. His left-leaning Progressive Conservative government reflected the new urban Alberta centred in and around Edmonton and Calgary. In Lougheed's view of Canada, there was no hinterland in the West but rather a country where the Western provinces, led by oil-rich Alberta, played an equal and even key role. Through the division of powers in the British North America Act, the provinces were the equal of Ottawa.

Lougheed held these ideas when he came to office in 1971. But it wasn't until the autumn of 1981, during a dramatic climax of events, that he was able ultimately to shape events to reflect his view of the country.

Alberta's booming oil and gas economy was the foundation on which his view was built. But three things which he did not create — and on which he capitalized on brilliantly — made his oversized role in the development of Canada possible. These were: the Quiet Revolution and the rise of separatism in Quebec; the Arab oil embargo following the Yom Kippur War in 1973; and television and technical advances in gathering and transmitting news. By the mid 1970s, the impact of all three of these developments were being felt.

The rise of separatism in Quebec and the election of the Parti Québécois in 1976 pushed constitutional renewal to the top of the national agenda. The Arab oil embargo moved world prices higher than regulated domestic prices in Canada.



Peter Lougheed.

CP IMAGES

The introduction of portable television cameras capable of recording people and events on videotape instead of on film that had to be processed sped up the news cycle, giving newsmakers anywhere in the country a national reach.

Lougheed exploited television with a low-key, reasonable-sounding approach. For instance, he adopted a more in-sorrow-than-in-anger style when he delivered bad news. He was never more effective on the medium than when the issues of natural resource pricing and control and the division of powers between Ottawa and the provinces came together in 1980 and 1981. These gave Lougheed the stage he needed to change Canada.

Several factors combined to create a volatile and contentious political landscape: the Lazarus-like return to power of Pierre Trudeau and the Liberals in February of 1980; the subsequent win of the federalists in the Quebec referendum in May of that year after Trudeau promised constitutional reform; and the October 1980 federal budget that introduced the National Energy Program (NEP) to set oil prices and taxes.

Like the other provinces, Alberta owned and controlled its natural resources. Lougheed saw the NEP as an attack on provincial jurisdiction — as much a constitutional as an economic and political attack. But it was for the most part an issue between Alberta and Ottawa.

The Constitution was a different matter. After again failing to get provincial support for constitutional change in September of 1980, Prime Minister Trudeau planned to ask the British Parliament to pass a law "patriating" to Canadian jurisdiction the British North America Act passed in 1867 to create Canada. In Canada he would pass a Canadian Act creating both the Constitution and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. This new Constitution would have an amending formula for changes that only Ontario and Quebec amongst the provinces could unilaterally block.

The premiers and governments of Ontario and New Brunswick supported the federal initiative. The other premiers vehemently disagreed. They believed that

Trudeau's plan would lead to an even more centralized Canada.

Alberta was in the centre of the constitutional fight, but three other provinces took the leading public role. Newfoundland, Manitoba, and Quebec each asked their provincial courts to rule on the Trudeau go-it-alone plan. Meanwhile, to get Opposition support in the House of Commons, Trudeau pre-empted the provincial challenges by referring the issue of unilateral patriation to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Quebec Premier René Lévesque, who was still nursing his wounds from his referendum loss, but was somewhat refreshed by winning another majority government, at first stood on the sidelines. Lougheed convinced him to join the other provinces to create the "Gang of Eight" opposing Ottawa.

At the time, Lougheed was warned that Lévesque would ultimately break his heart by abandoning the other premiers. Ironically, it would be Lougheed with the other premiers who would ultimately broke Lévesque's.

While Lougheed had allies on the constitutional front, he was essentially on his own in his fight against the NEP because any energy pricing arrangement between Alberta and Ottawa would apply to other producing provinces. To wage his war, he adopted the OPEC approach to try to ratchet up pressure on the federal government.

When the NEP was announced, he went on television to say that he would give three-month warnings before reducing shipments of Alberta oil to refineries outside the province by sixty-thousand barrels a day. The first sixty-thousand-barrel cut took effect on March 1, 1981, the second on June 1.

By the time a new pricing agreement between Ottawa and Alberta was reached more than ten months after the NEP was announced, shipments had been cut by one hundred and twenty thousand barrels.

The strategy worked. A new energy deal was signed on September 1, 1981, the day the third reduction was scheduled to take effect. In the short term that strategy had cost his province and his government some money. But Lougheed had proved his principle that Ottawa could not on its own unilaterally tax, price, and regulate a natural resource owned by a province.

The new Ottawa-Alberta energy agreement was signed twenty-seven days before the Supreme Court ruled on whether Trudeau could go it alone on repatriation of the Constitution. Essentially, the court ruled Ottawa must try once more to get "substantial" provincial support for its constitutional plans before acting unilaterally.

While Lougheed had allies on the constitutional front, he was essentially on his own in his fight against the NEP.

A federal-provincial conference was quickly set for early November 1981. Lougheed realized that without provincial support Trudeau would be free to pursue his own agenda. Or, if there was substantial provincial support but Alberta was not part of it, his province could be isolated. He also realized that a compromise deal would have to be made around the opposing provinces demand for greater control over future constitutional amendments and Trudeau's desire for a Charter of Rights and Freedoms attached to the Constitution.

Ultimately, that was the deal that was made. It takes seven provinces with at least fifty per cent of the national population to make significant constitutional change. There is a Charter of Rights accompanying the Constitution, but there is also a notwithstanding clause attached to it that provinces can use to opt out of opposed changes in law.

Lougheed was not able to bring René Lévesque within the new constitutional deal. But he went ahead anyway, because he realized that while Lévesque could be useful as part of a group to block Trudeau, the separatist premier was never going to agree to a deal renewing and strengthening Canada.

As is often the case, subsequent events did not turn out as expected. Within a year of the new energy agreement, world oil prices tumbled and the rich cornucopia of revenues expected by both the federal and Alberta governments failed to materialize. Ironically, successive governments of Quebec — whether separatist or federalist — have routinely used the notwithstanding clause in the Canadian Constitution as a buffer against federal legislation it opposes.

Still, as Lougheed returned to Alberta in November of 1981 he had both an energy agreement and a Constitution he had shaped and achieved. And although he had won an energy deal by reducing supplies of Alberta oil to the rest of Canada, he had created no real hardship. Through his ability to reach out to people across the country on television, his reputation was enhanced nationally.

Already wildly popular in Alberta, the next year he won another huge majority government and stayed three more years as premier before stepping down to a new career as a corporate director. As the years passed, he was seen as an iconic wise man, respected throughout Canada.

Peter Lougheed was eighty-four when he died September 13, 2012. He had been voted in a recent survey as the best premier of any province in the past forty years.

At the time of his passing, Lougheed knew he was living in a more decentralized Canada, much like the one he had envisioned forty years earlier. It is a Canada where no one challenges a province's control of its natural resources, and no one thinks anymore that Alberta — or any part of the West — is a hinterland.

Don Newman is the former senior parliamentary editor for CBC TV. From 1979 to 1981 he was the CBC National TV correspondent in Alberta, where he covered Peter Lougheed during the National Energy Program crisis and the patriation of the Constitution.

CHRISTOPHER MOORE

Worth the Waite

Halifax historian marks ninetieth birthday with new tome on R.B. Bennett.

When I was a new historian, people told me, "You are not old enough to be a historian." Funny, I don't get that anymore. But there is that notion of an age requirement.

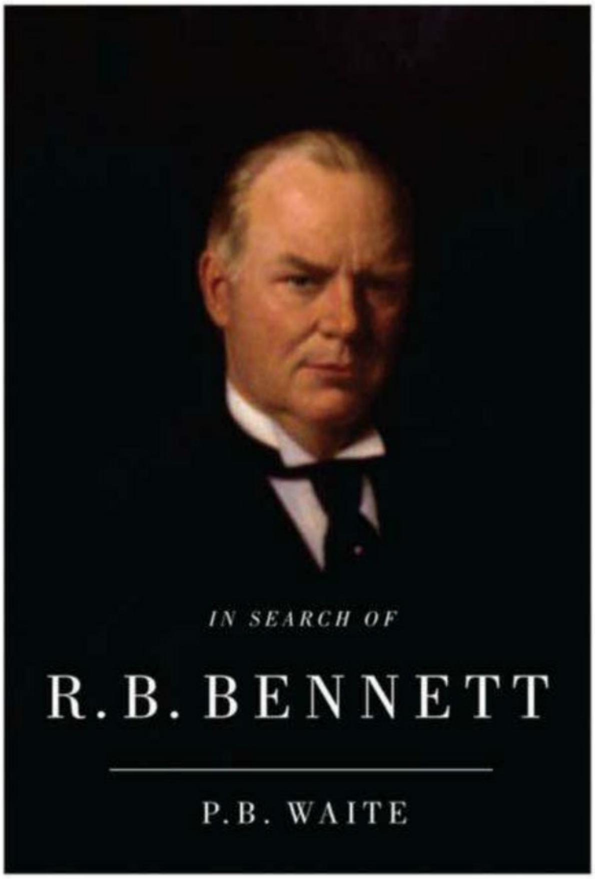
A little grey at the temples does seem to provide credentials. Still, a historian who publishes a big new history fifty years after the publication of his first big history — which is still in print — is setting a benchmark few others will match.

Peter Waite — popularly known as P.B. Waite — didn't exactly rush that first book into print, either. He was already forty back in 1962 when *The Life and Times of Confederation* appeared. In 2012, as *In Search of R.B. Bennett* is attracting the kind of reviews Waite's books have often garnered — "elegant style," "light touch," "lovely," "sensitive," "superbly written and a pleasure to read" — the author is marking his ninetieth birthday.

I talked recently with Waite about that landmark, and about his own history. Waite wrote and taught steadily as a professor at Dalhousie University in Halifax, but he may not be a household name. Even among scholars, he has been a historian of Canadian politics during an era when political history has been rather out of fashion. Nevertheless, connoisseurs know Waite as a master historian, steadily productive, scrupulous in his research, and putting his urbane and stylish voice into everything he writes. Waite is due for a tribute.

Why turn now from the days of John A. Macdonald to Depression-era Prime Minister R. B. Bennett, I wondered?

"For balance," he said at once. "I felt he was underestimated. I'm not for him completely, but I did want to redress the balance." Bennett was often his own worst enemy. But, Waite notes, he came to power just as the Depression struck. Even his ambitious rival William Lyon Mackenzie King felt lucky to be out of power in those years. Harold Innis, the economic historian, thought no prime minister could have handled the crisis better.



After his defeat, Bennett retreated to Britain, and Canada dismissed him. Waite recalls hearing of his death in 1947. "I was doing a summer job on Lake of Bays in Ontario, and I thought, 'I don't know about him and I don't care.' I just was not aware of him." But Bennett may be making a comeback in today's tough times. Waite's biography is one of a flurry of sympathetic studies that have appeared in recent years.

By 1947, when Bennett died, Waite was twenty-five, done with a youthful stint as a bank clerk in Saint John, New Brunswick, and with wartime service as a lieutenant in the Canadian navy. He turned to university. Dissatisfied at the University of Toronto, he switched to the University of British Columbia ("Well, I knew a girl out West") and in time he began to focus on Canadian history.

In 1951 he was back at Toronto, working on a doctorate with noted historian Donald Creighton, when Dalhousie came calling. "A friend recommended me for the job. I liked the city, and people there seemed to enjoy themselves," he says. Halifax has been home ever since.

In the 1950s, professor Waite felt less pressure to publish a book based on his doctoral thesis than today's aspiring professors do. "George Wilson [his department head] said to me, 'I don't want you rushing to write that thesis of yours into a book. I want you to travel in Europe.' I was teaching 'Plato to NATO,' of course. So I spent my summers walking in Europe."

But gradually the thesis — it was

Connoisseurs know Waite as a master historian, steadily productive, scrupulous in his research, and putting his stylish voice into everything he writes.

a study of Confederation built from newspaper reports — began to demand his attention. In 1962, it became *The Life and Times of Confederation*, the first big book about Confederation in forty years and the first of a flurry of pre-centennial histories of Confederation. Waite has been publishing ever since.

In a brief memoir of that project, Waite vividly evoked what keeps a historian with a big topic going.

"What was overwhelming was the exhilaration of it," he told me recently. "One was driven to the newspapers, to the Parliamentary Library, to the St. John's library ... not by the exigencies of a Ph.D., but by adrenalin. That was great fun, chasing the newspapers around."

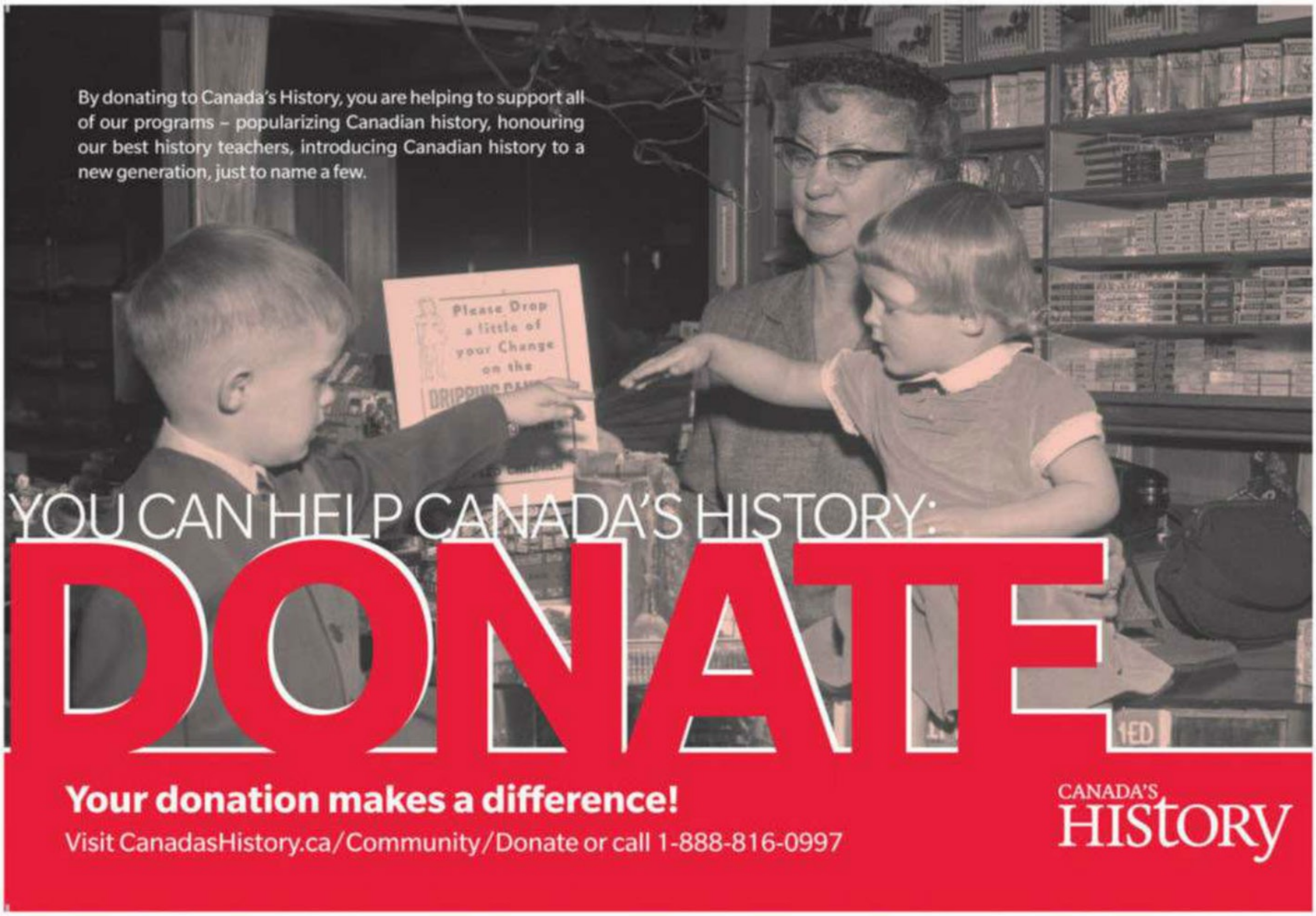
However, he also appreciates that new forms of historical research can be equally satisfying, and his newest book salutes online archives: "To be able to read King's diary from my study in Halifax has been a tremendous advantage," he says in his preface to Bennett.

Waite has written many histories and biographies, even the story of Dalhousie University. But for dedicated readers of history, a Waite favourite may be *The Man From Halifax*, his biography of another ill-fated prime minister, John Thompson, one of John A. Macdonald's successors. Thompson died suddenly in 1894, age forty-nine, after barely two years in office.

The Man From Halifax is a long book for a brief career, but it has the Waite style that suffuses all his works — well-informed, casual, intimate, full of glimpses of human beings and detail of how their lives were lived. For many readers, the book is admired as much for the historian's craft it displays as for the history in it.

Happily, the same craft is also evident in Waite's newest book.

Christopher Moore comments in every issue of *Canada's History*.



By donating to Canada's History, you are helping to support all of our programs – popularizing Canadian history, honouring our best history teachers, introducing Canadian history to a new generation, just to name a few.

YOU CAN HELP CANADA'S HISTORY:

DONATE

Your donation makes a difference!

Visit CanadasHistory.ca/Community/Donate or call 1-888-816-0997

CANADA'S HISTORY

STUDY ABROAD THIS SUMMER

APPLY ONLINE AT WWW.VIMYFOUNDATION.CA

Canadian Heritage Patrimoine canadien

THE BEAVERBROOK CANADIAN FOUNDATION

THE VIMY FOUNDATION
LA FONDATION VIMY

On April 9, 1917, in the midst of World War One, the Canadian Corps in France moved against German Defenses at Vimy Ridge. The ridge was widely viewed as impregnable, but the Canadian troops conquered it. The Battle of Vimy Ridge was a milestone where Canada came of age and was recognized on the world stage.

Inspired by this heroic victory, the annual **Beaverbrook Vimy Prize** brings together students from Canada, the United Kingdom and France to learn about their intertwined history in England, Belgium and France.

This is a unique opportunity to learn French and open yourself to other cultures. Participants must be 15-17 years old.
The competition runs from November 11 to February 1.

LIKE US OR FOLLOW US

Anglo-a-no-no

Our Scots-Quebecer columnist takes umbrage at being called an 'Anglo' in his home province.

The "Anglos" made headlines again this autumn.

The Quebec election made it inevitable: How would the Anglos vote? Could the Anglos make a difference? As it turns out, the answer was partially yes — the separatist Partis Québécois was held to a minority victory.

I found myself wondering how contemporary English-speaking Quebecers feel about being called "Anglos. Most of them have Irish or Scottish roots, and historically the Irish and the Scots have often been at loggerheads with the English.

Full disclosure: I grew up north of Montreal in a French-speaking resort town. Every summer, when the population exploded, I became one of "les Anglais" — an Anglo. This troubled me. I was one quarter French-Canadian, for starters, and in winter, when I wasn't at school, I hung out with French speakers. Also, I had no English roots. How could I be an Anglais? It felt wrong.

But I knew little history. I could not disentangle linguistic and ethnic confusions. Only now do I begin to understand my discomfort and to reflect that it might be widespread. Consider Quebec's demographics. In 2011, only 3.3 per cent of the populace claimed English heritage, while 8.2 per cent — more than twice as many people — claimed to be Irish (5.5) or Scottish (2.7). Nationally, the emphasis shifts, but the story remains the same: English origins, twenty-one per cent; either Scottish or Irish origin, twenty-nine per cent. Maybe we should speak not of English Canada but of Celtic Canada?

To lump together Canadians of English, Scottish, and Irish heritage, and say they are British in origin, is to forget that history transports emotional baggage. Many Canadians of Scottish heritage, for example, retain collective memories of the Highland clearances of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

After the Battle of Culloden in 1746, the victorious English cracked down on the Celtic Highlanders and sought to eradicate Gaelic culture by banning kilts and bagpipes. Tens of thousands of farmers were brutally evicted from their traditional family crofts in the Highlands and Western Isles. Best estimates suggest that some 150,000 people were cleared from their ancestral lands, almost sixty per cent of the population. Many of those who left blamed the English.

As the Highland clearances were to Scotland, so the Great Famine was to Ireland — a watershed event that launched a diaspora. When the English gained control of Ireland, they began using ancient farmlands to produce beef for the home market, forcing farmers onto smaller, more marginal lands and into dependence on the potato.

The late 1840s brought potato blight. Repeated crop failures led to famine. Between 1845 and 1852, one million people died of starvation and disease, and another million fled Ireland, many coming to Canada. John Mitchel, one of the leaders of the Young Ireland movement, attributed the famine to "the greedy and cruel policy of England." Later, he put it this way: "The Almighty, indeed, sent the potato blight, but the English created the Famine."

Even immigrants unaffected by the Highland clearances or the potato famine brought histories that celebrated resistance to the English. Look first at Scotland. In 1297, William Wallace led a Scottish victory against an invading English army at Stirling Bridge. Later captured and executed, Wallace inspired countless poems and novels and also the movie *Braveheart*.

In 1314, when England's King Edward II invaded Scotland, Robert the Bruce made his name by defeating him at the Battle of Bannockburn. And in the mid-1600s, during the Wars of the Three Kingdoms, the Great Montrose, a brilliant tactician, relied on a disciplined Irish infantry to win an outstanding victory against the English at Aberdeen. He, too, was eventually defeated and executed and later attained the status of a martyr.

In Ireland, meanwhile, Celtic traditions prevailed until 1494, when England's King Henry VII sent Sir Edward Poynings to overthrow Gerald Mór FitzGerald, the Great Earl of Kildare, and to reduce Ireland to "perfect obedience." When the Great Earl died, his offspring continued to resist. But in 1537, after leading a rebellion in Dublin, his grandson, Silken Thomas FitzGerald, was captured and executed. King Henry VIII had himself formally proclaimed King of Ireland and installed English troops in Dublin Castle, where they would remain until 1922.

Irish resistance to the imposition of English religion, law, language, and culture led to a Nine Years War (1594 to 1603) that brought an army of eighteen thousand soldiers to Ireland. From the north of the country, Hugh O'Neill, also known as "the O'Neill," led the Irish in a losing cause. In 1607, he and his allies escaped to the European continent, an event known as the Flight of the Earls. The O'Neill was bent on returning with a large army but died before he could do so.

The Flight of the Earls led to the "planting" of Ulster (Northern Ireland) with Protestants and the brutal depredations of Oliver Cromwell. And then came more uprisings, among them the Rebellion of 1641 and the Glorious Revolution of 1688, both of which were suppressed by the far more numerous English.

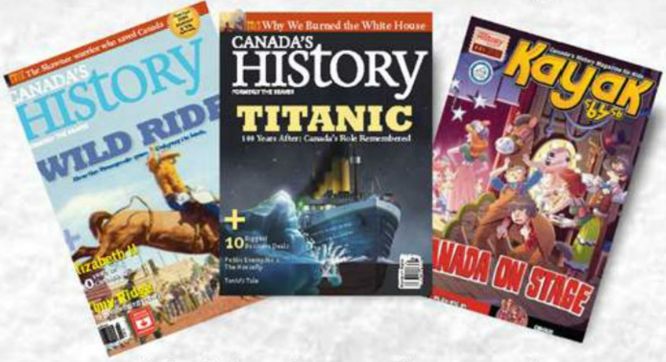
In the 1700s, after fighting on the British side during the American Revolution, the Irish Lord Edward Fitzgerald explored Canada with Native peoples. When he returned

Log Hut on the St. Maurice, Cornelius Krieghoff (1815-1872) 1862, Painting M967.100.15 McCord Museum, Montreal

Canada's History gift subscriptions as low as $27.95!

The Greatest Gifts in History

Share our remarkable past with
gift subscriptions to Canada's History and
Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids


CANADA'S HISTORY
WILD RIDE
CANADA'S HISTORY
Why We Burned the White House
TITANIC
100 Years After: Canada's Role Remembered
Kayak
CANADA ON STAGE

SAVE
OVER 40% OFF
THE COVER
PRICE

Mail in the order card
Call 1 888 816-0997
Order Online at CanadasHistory.ca

Kayak

CANADA'S
HISTORY

to Ireland, he joined the United Irishmen in seeking Irish independence. During the Rebellion of 1798, he was wounded and captured, and then died in prison. His contemporary Wolfe Tone, a Dublin-born lawyer and an Anglican, felt driven to join the struggle. Tone died in captivity and is still celebrated as the father of Irish Republicanism.

Robert Emmet — another wealthy Anglo-Irish Protestant, who was also a Catholic sympathizer — led an abortive rebellion on behalf of Irish Catholics in 1803. He, too, was captured, tried, and executed. The lawyer-politician Daniel O'Connell, also known as "the Liberator," sought non-violently to achieve Catholic emancipation and the repeal of the Act of Union, which in 1800 had forcibly united Ireland and Great Britain. He succeeded in the first objective, inspiring Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King.

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, Charles Stewart Parnell emerged as Ireland's leading politician. In 1880, while on a speaking tour in North America, Parnell inspired such an enthusiastic reception in Toronto that a political wag dubbed him "the uncrowned king of Ireland." A complex, charismatic figure, Parnell led the campaign for Irish home rule for several tumultuous decades. He spent time both in jail and in the British House of Commons and sought to destroy "the last link which keeps Ireland bound to England."

These are not sentiments that, carried to Canada, encouraged the Irish to identify with the English. Some historians argue that, had he not died at age forty-five, Parnell might have achieved home rule for all of Ireland. That would have meant no Easter rising of 1916, no separation of Ulster from the rest of Ireland, and no Troubles extending into the 1990s.

Against this background, we should recall that, in the nineteenth century, two extraordinary figures — John A. Macdonald and Thomas D'Arcy McGee — did manage to forge an alliance with the French and so achieved Confederation. But neither was English. Macdonald was a Scot whose immigration derived from the clearances, and McGee was an Irishman who arrived out of the Great Famine and would soon be assassinated by radicals for being too accommodating.

This is a cursory survey, meant only to show why Canadians of Scottish and Irish heritage — whether in Quebec or elsewhere — might feel awkward about being called Anglos. On the other hand, what about Celtic Canada? Surely that has a ring?

Historian and author Ken McGoogan writes regularly in Canada's History.

SELLING CANADA
Immigrants, soldiers, tourists, and the building of our nation
DANIEL FRANCIS

New in Paperback

"Well-researched, accessibly written, and beautifully presented, *Selling Canada* is as alluring as the campaigns Francis writes about."
– *Canada's History Magazine*

Selling Canada: Immigrants, soldiers, tourists, and the building of our nation
DANIEL FRANCIS

8.5 x 9 inches • 192 pages
Over 200 photographs and ephemera
Full colour throughout
PB $24.95 • 978-0-9809304-6-7

SA&D Stanton Atkins & Dosil Publishers

For other SA&D books visit:
www.s-a-d-publishers.ca

CANADA'S HISTORY
FORMERLY THE BEAVER

Back issues as far back as the 1950s are still available. Order now while supplies last!

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

Order Now! Quantities are Limited!

Back Issues

First Issue
Summer 1960
Aug • Sept 2010

Slip Case

Each case holds twelve issues, two years worth of magazines, and ensures your collection of Canada's History stays in perfect condition for future reference

$12.98 each or 2 for $22

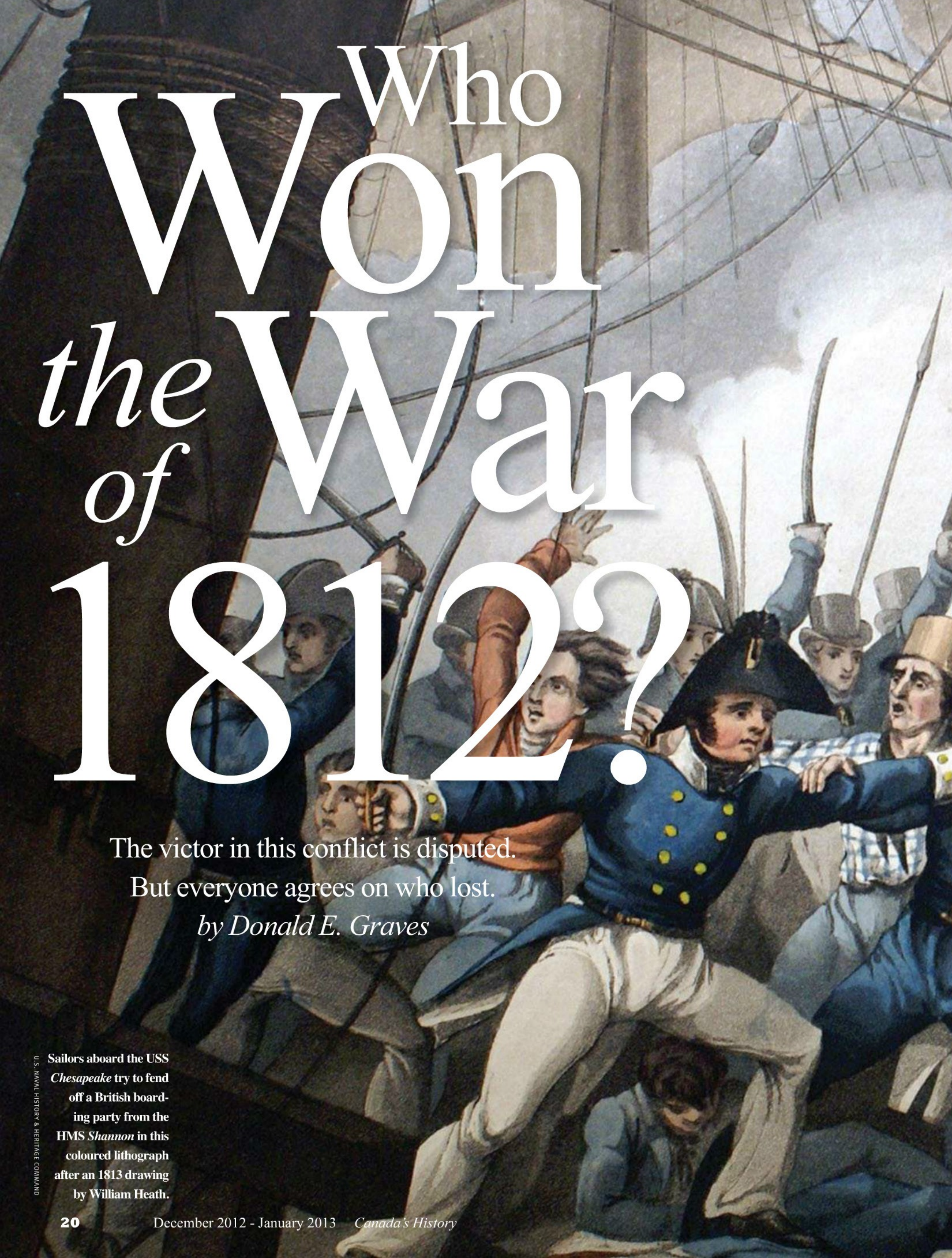
Visit CanadasHistory.ca for a complete list of back issues, including the very first issue from October 1920.

ORDER NOW: 1-888-816-0997 or online at CanadasHistory.ca

Who Won *the* War *of* 1812?

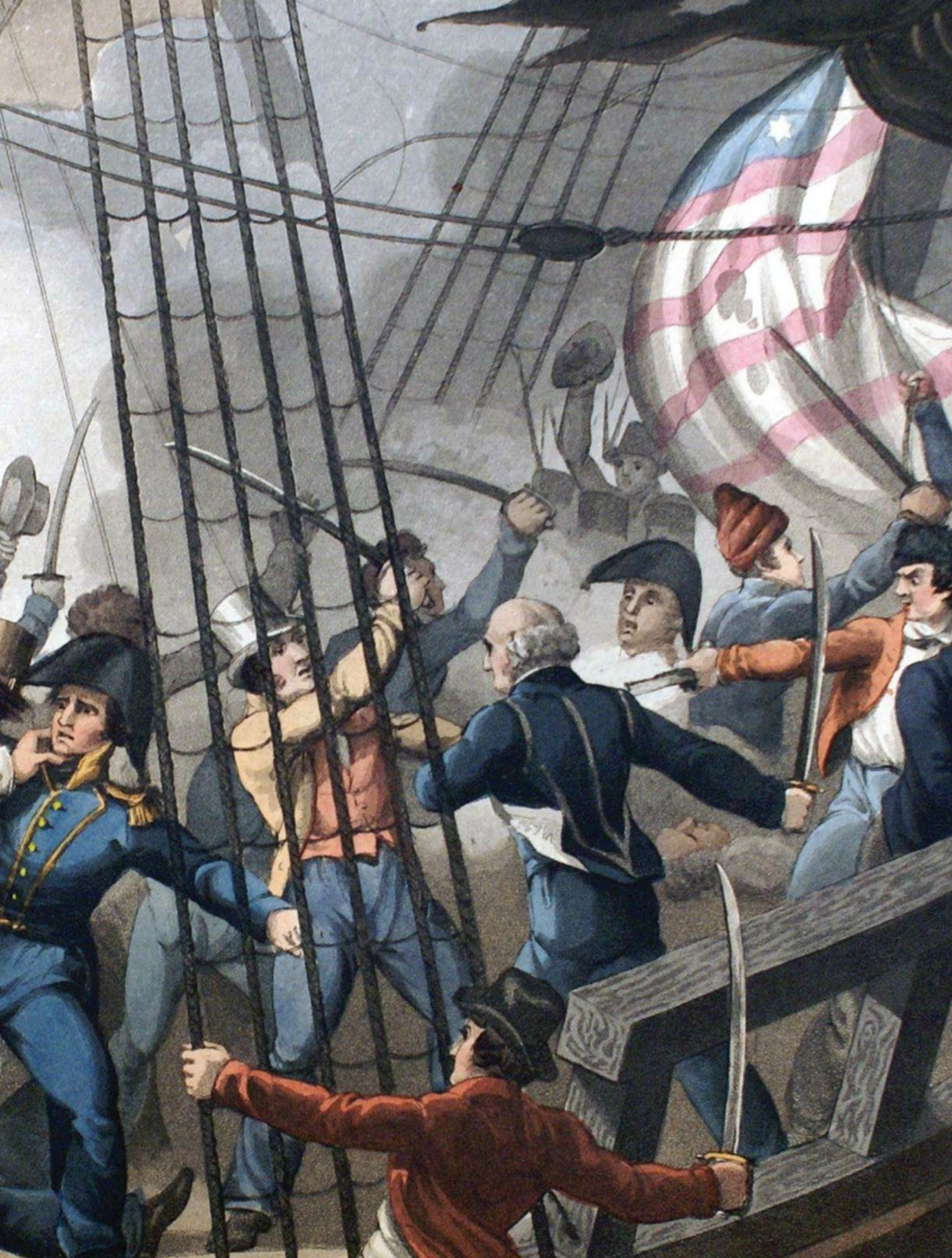
The victor in this conflict is disputed. But everyone agrees on who lost.

by Donald E. Graves

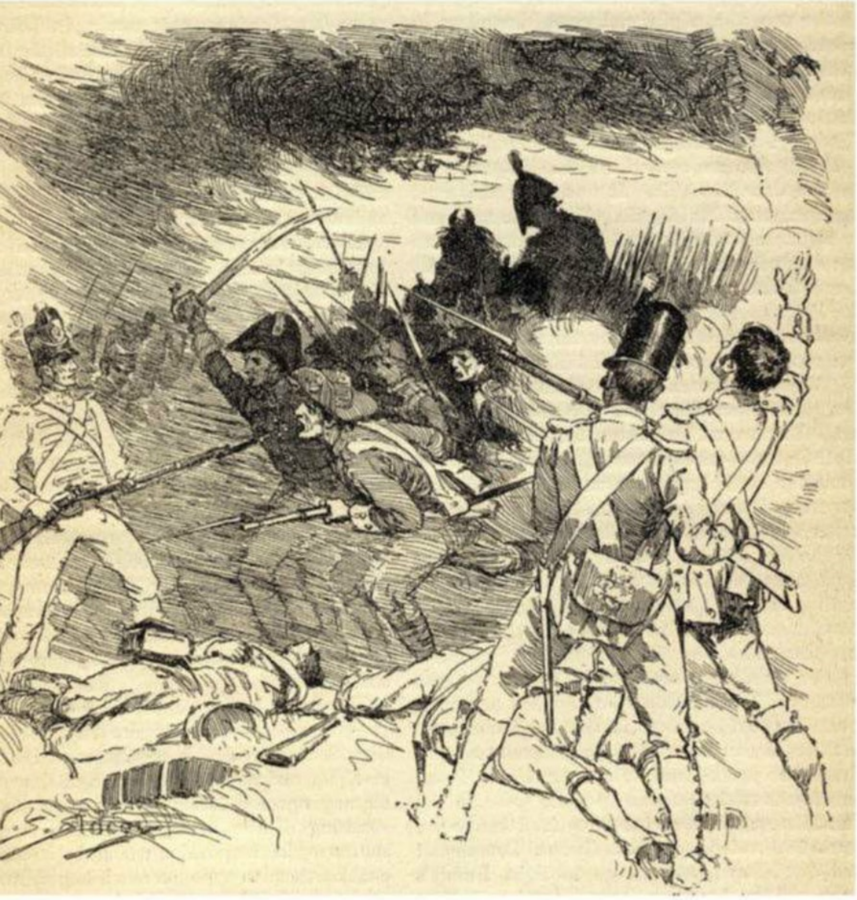


Sailors aboard the USS *Chesapeake* try to fend off a British boarding party from the HMS *Shannon* in this coloured lithograph after an 1813 drawing by William Heath.

U.S. NAVAL HISTORY & HERITAGE COMMAND



Two centuries after it was fought, there are still doubts and competing claims as to who won the War of 1812. This confusion about the conflict's outcome, Canadian historian C.P. Stacey once remarked, is because the War of 1812 is "one of those episodes in history that make everybody happy, because everybody interprets it in his own way."



An illustration of the Battle of Lundy's Lane, as it appeared in the 1899 book *Battles of the 19th Century*.

U.S. ARMY CENTRE OF MILITARY HISTORY

Stacey elaborates:

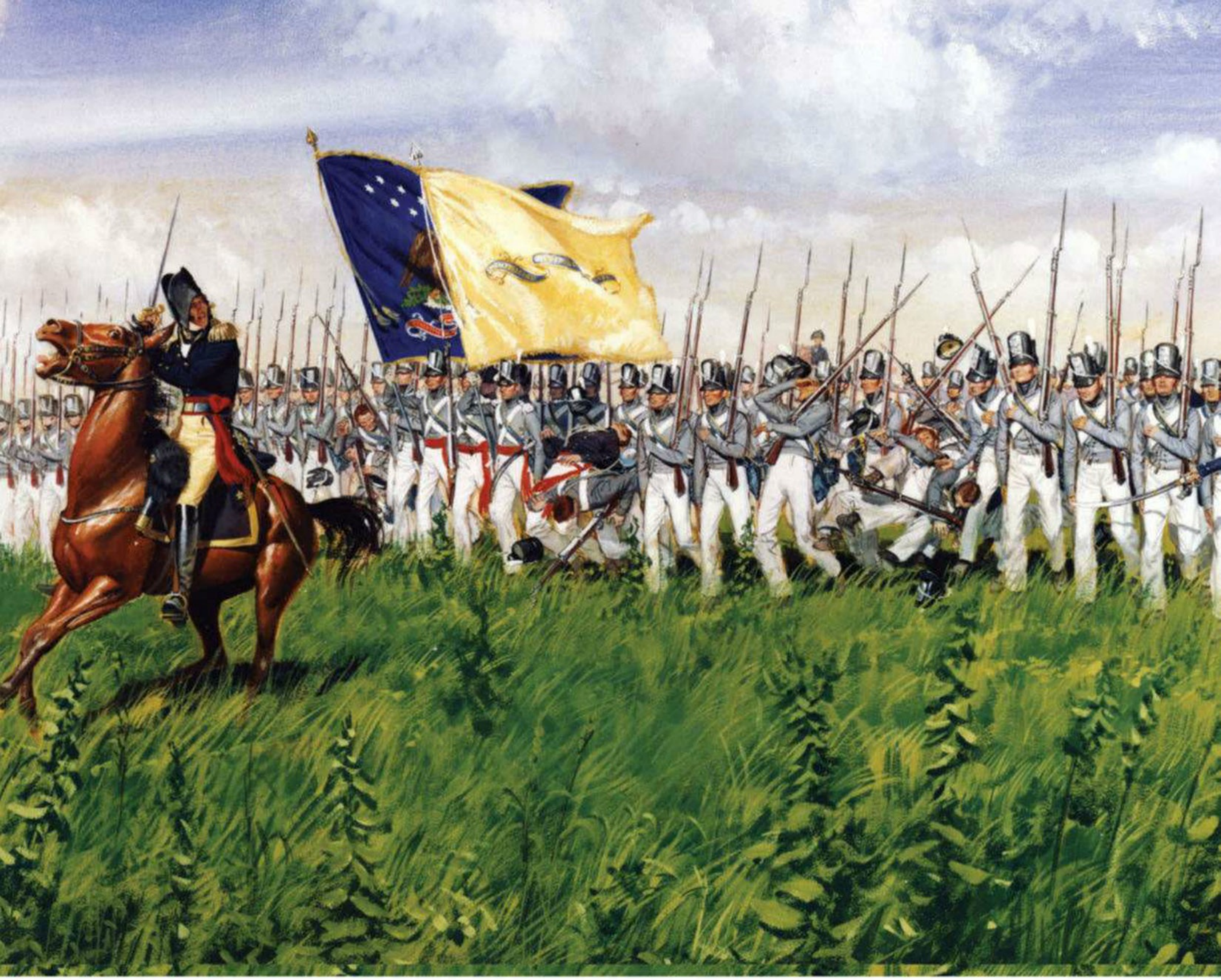
> The Americans think of it as primarily a naval war in which the pride of the Mistress of the Sea was humbled by what an imprudent Englishman had called "a few fir-built frigates manned by bastards and outlaws." Canadians think of it equally pridefully as a war of defence in which their brave fathers, side by side, turned back the massed might of the United States and saved the country from conquest. And the English are the happiest of all, because they don't even know it happened.

This uncertainty about the victor is a modern phenomenon. In the nineteenth century, there was little doubt in the minds of American, British, or Canadian historians as to who was the victor. Charles Ingersoll, an American congressman who published a two-volume history of the war in the 1840s, was certain that, by a wondrous "mixture of constraint with independence, law and liberty, the United States stand now among the primary powers of the world," a happy state "to which elevation the war of 1812, with its preliminary reverses and post-liminous successes, largely contributed."

Not to be outdone, Canadian Egerton Ryerson praised the "Spartan bands" of "Loyalist volunteers" who, "aided by a few hundred English soldiers," courageously "repelled the Persian thousands of democratic American invaders, and maintained the virgin soil of Canada unpolluted by the foot of the plundering invader."

A common theme among American authors was that the war brought about a near-miraculous reaffirmation of the historical verdict of the Revolutionary War. Thus, many nineteenth-century American histories were subtitled "The Second War of Independence," and to Ingersoll one of the conflict's most important legacies was that it broke "down the idolatry of England" in the United States and increased a sense of nationhood. To Benson Lossing, who wrote a popular history in the 1860s, the war not only broke the chains of British domination but united a collection of "weak, isolated commonwealths" into a powerful nation that vindicated its rights by force of arms. Significantly, prior to 1812 American politicians spoke of "these" United States, while after 1815 they spoke of "the" United States.

Then as now, Canadian authors were concerned about the effect the widespread distribution of American books was having on the younger generation. As William Coffin complained, accurate Canadian histories of the war have had their place "usurped at our firesides by a flood of American publications, sensational as they are termed, written for show, designed for sale, and to this end pandering to the worst passions of a morbid nationality."



U.S. infantry soldiers advance during the Battle of Chippewa, July 5, 1814. Illustration by H. Charles McBarron, Jr.

By the centennial year of 1912, the Canadian image of the War of 1812 as a heroic epic was more or less set in stone.

Having delivered himself of this thunderbolt, Coffin then exalts that, to his countrymen, the very words "1812" had the "virtue of an incantation" that quickened "the pulse and vibrated through the frame, summoning from the pregnant past memories of suffering and endurance and honourable exertion" that are "inscribed on the banner and stamped on the hearts of the Canadian people." Morbid nationalism, indeed.

And, of course, no one should doubt that British and Canadian historians compiled the most objective and truthful accounts. In his 1905 work, James Hannay noted that he might be criticized because he had "been too severe on the American, who invaded our country, burnt our towns, ravaged our fields, slaughtered our people and tried to place us under a foreign flag," but he could "see no reason why any American of the present day should feel offended by an absolutely truthful narrative."

By the centennial year of 1912, the Canadian image of the war as a heroic epic was more or less set in stone. In 1914, Alexander Fraser, the provincial archivist of Ontario, remarked that the conflict gave Canada "a saga of glowing tradition, an epic of patriotism, an historic pageant of men and women whose deeds will be our national inspiration and whose names will be our everlasting glory." A few weeks before Fraser spoke these words, a Serbian nationalist assassinated an Austro-Hungarian archduke, igniting the spark that would lead not only to the First World War but to other bloody conflicts.

Allies in two world wars and in the half century of the Cold War that followed, Americans, Britons, and Canadians gradually began to regard the War of 1812 as an unfortunate family quarrel best forgotten. In fact, a 1942 handbook issued to American soldiers stationed in wartime Britain urged them not to talk about the conflict, as "there is not time today to fight old wars over again, or bring up old grievances." Gradually, the war receded into the farthest corners of the historical attic and has only recently been retrieved and dusted off as its bicentennial is commemorated.

This is all very well and good, but the question remains — who won the War of 1812? After all, there was a war, there were battles won or lost, and there was a peace treaty that ended hostilities, so it stands to reason that there must be a victor and a vanquished.

To answer the question, one could consult that leading expert on the subject of war, the Prussian military theorist Carl von Clausewitz. To Clausewitz, war is "the continuation of policy by other means," and, as the "political object is the goal, war is the means of reaching it, and means can never be considered in isolation from their purpose." Therefore, to determine who won the War of 1812, we must first examine the aims and objectives of the two belligerents and ascertain how close they actually came to achieving them.

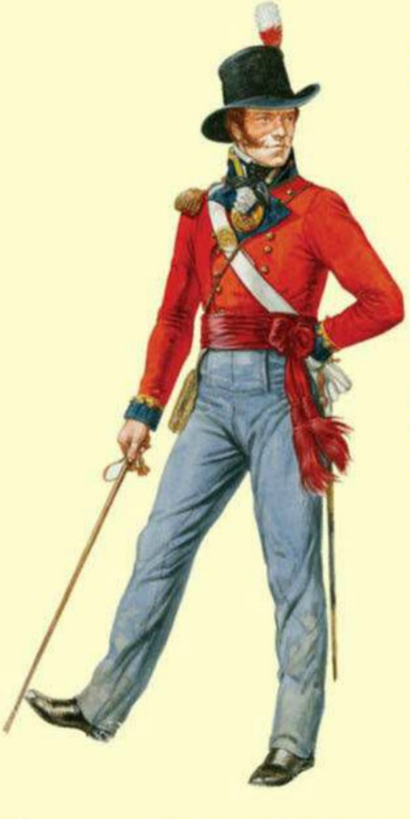
Britain's war aim was quite simple: The North American conflict was an unwelcome sideshow of a greater struggle in Europe, and her object was to prevent the United States from conquering her territory in North America. Except for some small areas in western Upper Canada, this aim was fully achieved, and therefore Britain — and, by derivation, Canada — has good claim to having won the War of 1812.

So far, so good (at least for Britons and Canadians), but things get a little more complicated when we wander south of the border, down Washington way. For much of the twentieth century there was a debate in American academic circles about the origins of the war, whether they were a struggle for maritime rights, or a desire for western expansion, or a combination of both. It is now generally accepted that the origins are to be found on the high seas. The United States therefore went to war to defend her maritime rights — that is, to stop Britain from using its naval superiority to deny American vessels from trading with Napoleon's empire and to stop the Royal Navy from boarding neutral ships in wartime, seizing cargo considered to be contraband, and impressing seamen suspected to be British subjects.

But there is also the young republic's wish to acquire British North America. The idea that one of Washington's, albeit unofficial, war aims was simple imperialism has, understandably, never been popular with modern American historians — unlike their nineteenth-century predecessors. They have to admit, however, that, given the strength of the Royal Navy, Canada was the only place where the United States could wage a war against Great Britain. Therefore,

MEN AT ARMS: COMBATANTS OF THE WAR OF 1812

TEXT BY RENÉ CHARTRAND

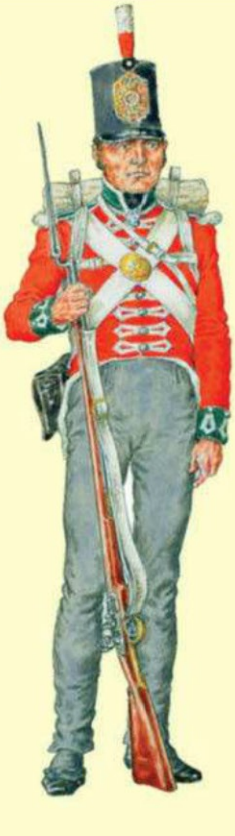


CANADIAN MILITIA FORCES IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

Able to bear arms: 88,000
Mobilized: June 1812: 2,500
June 1813: 8,500

Casualties:
Unknown, but probably a few hundred killed and wounded.

Illustration: Officer of the Upper Canada Militia
Credit: *G.A. Embleton, DND Canada*



BRITISH ARMY AND CANADIAN REGULAR UNITS

June 1812: 9,500
June 1813: 12,100
September 1814: 39,000

Casualties:
Killed in action: 1,600
Wounded: 3,679
Deaths from disease: 3,321

Illustration: Private of the 49th Regiment of Foot, 1812–1813
Credit: *C.H. Foster, Parks Canada*

whether Canada was an objective of the war or simply a theatre of war, American victory in the conflict would have meant the end of British possessions in North America — and, of course, no Canada today.

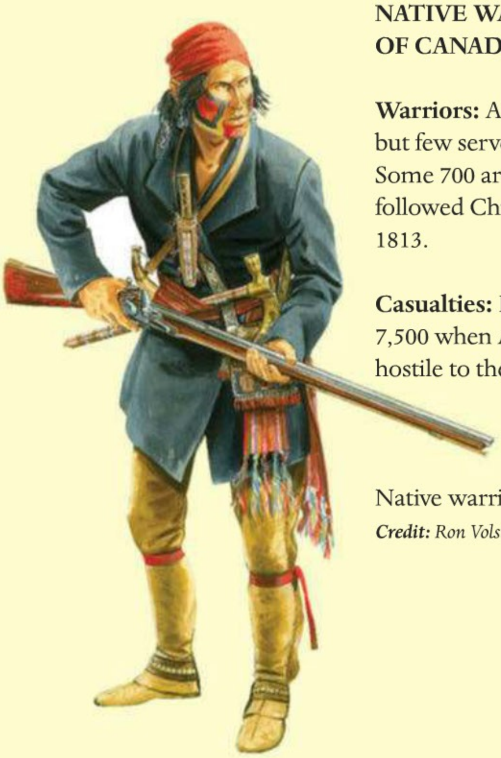
This aim may never have been publicly proclaimed by U.S. President James Madison's government, but it was certainly understood and approved by many Americans of the time. In early 1812, Andrew Jackson of Tennessee, a man who would achieve considerable fame during the fighting, explained that the United States was going to war "to fight for the re-establishment of our national character, misunderstood and vilified at home and abroad; for the protection of our maritime citizens, impressed on board British ships of war and compelled to fight the battles of our enemies against ourselves; to vindicate our right to a free trade, and open a market for the productions of our soil, now perishing on our hands because the mistress of the ocean has forbid us to carry them to any foreign nation; in fine, to seek some indemnity for past injuries, some security against future aggressions, by the conquest of all the British dominions upon the continent of North America."

The United States failed to accomplish a single one of these aims. The end of the Napoleonic wars in Europe brought an end to the British trade restrictions and also the Royal Navy's need to impress seamen. Britain did not renounce her proclaimed right to stop and board foreign merchant vessels in wartime, and no British territory was lost in North America.

In addition, as Brian Arthur, author of a provocatively titled new book, *How Britain Won the War of 1812*, asserts, the conflict was a disaster for the republic as, by the time it ended, "the Americans had gained none of the aims they had hoped for at the outset and had bankrupted themselves in the process. Between 1812 and the end of 1814 the American government had collected $35.1m[illion] in wartime taxes, at the same time spending $86.7m, creating a $51.6m shortfall. Over the same period it had sought to borrow $62.5m by

ANDREW WORKMAN

War of 1812 re-enactors at a 2011 event at Fanshawe Pioneer Village, London, Ontario.

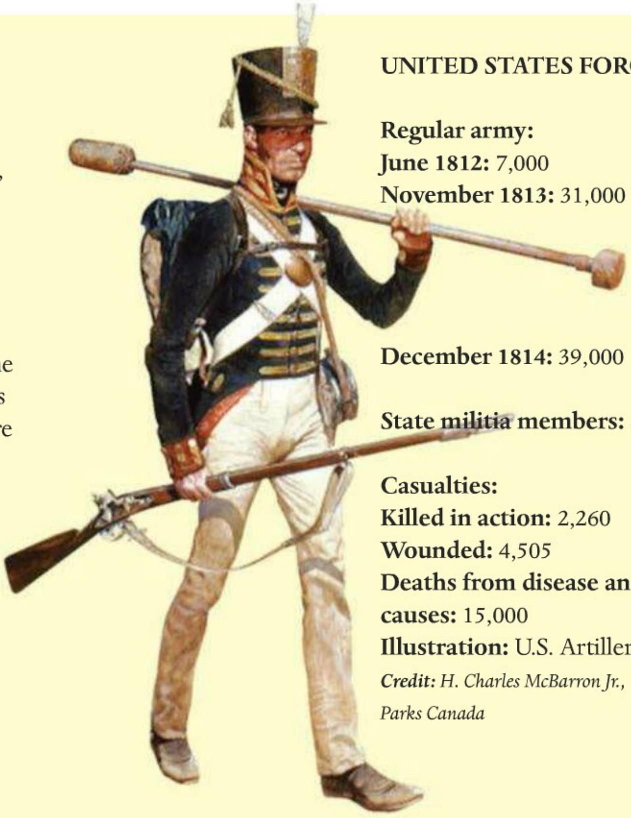


NATIVE WARRIORS OF CANADA

Warriors: As many as 10,000, but few served permanently. Some 700 are said to have followed Chief Tecumseh in 1813.

Casualties: Estimated at some 7,500 when American Natives hostile to the United States are included.

Illustration:
Native warrior, 1812–1814
Credit: *Ron Volstad, DND Canada*



UNITED STATES FORCES

Regular army:
June 1812: 7,000
November 1813: 31,000

December 1814: 39,000

State militia members: 460,000

Casualties:
Killed in action: 2,260
Wounded: 4,505
Deaths from disease and other causes: 15,000
Illustration: U.S. Artilleryman, 1813
Credit: *H. Charles McBarron Jr., Parks Canada*

ANDREW WORKMAN

1812? That being the case, perhaps the question might better be, who lost the War of 1812? On this point there is fairly unanimous agreement on the part of American, British, and Canadian historians that it was the Aboriginal peoples east of the Mississippi who lost the war. Regardless of whether they fought on the American or British side, or tried to remain neutral, the war was a cataclysmic event for the indigenous peoples of North America.

In the United States they were forced to cede their lands and then suffer resettlement in reservations west of the Mississippi, surrendering their independence to live as wards of the "Great Father," their ironic name for the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs that was established in 1824.

The fate of the Aboriginal peoples on the British/Canadian side of the border was only marginally better. Many had responded when, in the words of their great leader Tecumseh, their "Father" (King George III) "stood up and gave us the tomahawk, and told us he was now ready to strike the Americans, that he wanted our assistance; and that he certainly would get us our lands back which the Americans had taken from us."

Unfortunately, too many Aboriginal nations that had fought on the British side ended up like the Mdewkanton Sioux, whose chief, Chetanwakanmani (Little Crow), reported in 1814 that half his people had "died of hunger with shreds of skin in their mouths," a situation he attributed to "the troubles you [British] have with the Americans."

Whether they fought on the American or Britsh side, or tried to remain neutral, the war was a cataclysmic event for the indigenous peoples of North America.

Redcoat soldiers unleash a volley during a 2011 re-enactment event at Fanshawe Pioneer Village, London, Ontario.

selling government stock, of which it appears to have received only $42.6m, probably worth less than half that value in specie."

In short, America was bankrupt. Therefore, it seems clear to me and to many others — including, probably, Carl von Clausewitz, if he were around to advise us on the question — that the United States lost the War of 1812.

If that is so, our American neighbours are definitely not listening. Consider the words of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, as found on its website: "The War of 1812 represents what many see as the definitive end of the American Revolution. A new nation, widely regarded as an upstart, successfully defended itself against the largest, most powerful navy in the world during the maritime assault on Baltimore and later at the Battle of New Orleans.

America's victory over Great Britain confirmed the legitimacy of the Revolution; established clear boundaries between eastern Canada and the United States; set conditions for control of the Oregon Territory; and freed international trade from the constraints that had led to the war. America emerged from the war with an enhanced standing among the countries of the world." If this sounds rather familiar, it should, because it is straight out of the nineteenth-century American histories quoted above.

By now it must be evident that there can be no satisfactory answer to the question, who won the War of 1812?

For some of the Aboriginal nations, the conflict was very near to being a civil war. At the 1814 Battle of Chippawa, for example, nearly four hundred warriors of the Tuscarora and Seneca nations fought against about two hundred of their Iroquoian relatives from the Grand River peoples. As Chief Naiwash of the Ottawa nation complained in 1814, since "our great chief Tecumseh has been killed, we do not listen to one another, we do not rise together, we hurt ourselves by it. It is our own fault."

For the British-allied nations, as well as those allied with the Americans, the decades following the establishment of peace in 1815 witnessed the start of their long trek, assisted by the advent of reserves and church schools, on the road to oblivion.

This process was accelerated in 1830 when the British Indian Department ceased being a military entity and became a civil organization because the Aboriginal peoples were no longer needed as a military force. Thus, it can be said that, two hundred years after it was fought, there is agreement about who lost the War of 1812 but continuing disagreement about who won it.

One suspects that nothing will have changed when the tercentenary rolls around in 2112.

ANTIQUES UNCOVERED...

Join popular historian Dr. Lucy Worsley and antiques expert Mark Hill as they discover the stories behind everyday items and rare treasures in this fascinating 3-part, BBC-produced series, **Antiques Uncovered.**

North American Premiere
December 25, 7-10 PM

tvo
makes you think

ISTOCK

ARCTIC AMBITIONS

Canada and other nations needed a mechanism to discuss the future of the North. They found it in the Arctic Council.

by John English

In 2013 Canada becomes the chair of the Arctic Council, an organization barely noticed at its birth in September 1996, when Canada was its founding chair. Opposed by the United States, underfunded, without a permanent secretariat, and lacking terms of reference and rules of procedure, the Arctic Council limped into existence. Today it is the principal forum in which the eight Arctic states interact and plan the increasingly important future of the North.

Three principal factors converged to form the Arctic Council: firstly, the emergence of co-operation, autonomy, and assertiveness among the indigenous peoples of the North, particularly the Inuit; secondly, the greater concern for the environment and the understanding that the Arctic had a particular significance in global climate change and that Arctic peoples were subject to persistent organic pollutants from distant places; and, above all, the end of the Cold War, which had made the Arctic one of the most militarized areas in the world.

In the 1950s the government of Canada asserted its sovereign authority by removing Inuit families from their homes in northern Quebec and resettling them in the High Arctic. By the 1970s, such actions were unthinkable.

Articulate leaders appeared among the Inuit and demanded that their voices be heeded when their future was being decided. As part of the so-called "rights revolution" of the 1970s, governments responded more willingly to Aboriginal demands. The massive James Bay project in northern Quebec, for example, led to a land claim settlement with the Cree and Inuit in that region.

The Makivik Corporation was formed from proceeds of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. It soon became a training ground for leaders such as Mary Simon, Canada's first Arctic ambassador. Before her appointment as ambassador in 1994, she had been the president of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC), which was formed in 1977 to link together Inuit in Alaska, Canada, and Greenland.

Although the ICC often quarrelled with international environmental NGOs over the right to hunt seals and other animals sustainably, it strongly urged greater attention to environmental concerns, especially in the 1980s, when it became clear that pollution was a major concern in the North American Arctic. Simultaneously, Scandinavians worried about the impact of decrepit Soviet nuclear plants as demonstrated by the Chernobyl disaster and the many nuclear submarines in nearby waters.

On October 2, 1987, the dynamic new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev responded to these fears and offered new hopes for the Arctic. In Murmansk, U.S.S.R., the world's largest city north of the Arctic Circle, he gave a remarkable speech that confronted not only the environmental challenges but also growing Arctic militarization. He called for joint internationl action to deal with the sensitive Arctic

This article, prepared for *Canada's History,* is part one of a four-part series on environmental history generously sponsored by the Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation.

environment and for the creation of a "zone of peace" in the North.

The Finns immediately grasped the offer of environmental co-operation but the other countries initially responded with indifference. The Canadians, who had just issued a hawkish White Paper on defence that called for strengthening the Canadian military and the purchasing of nuclear submarines for Arctic patrol, brushed off Gorbachev's proposals. But Canadian peace activists, Arctic scholars, and Aboriginal activists disagreed with their government's stand. With funding from the Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation, several leading political and academic figures organized an Arctic Council Panel to promote an Arctic nuclear-free zone and to create a consultative and co-operative body among Arctic states. University of Toronto academic Franklyn Griffiths and Inuit leader Rosemarie Kuptana became the panel's co-chairs.

J.E. BERNIER/LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA/C-001724

Joseph-Elzéar Bernier made twelve trips to the Arctic between 1906 and 1925, helping to establish Canada's sovereignty over the region.

The end of the Cold War in 1989–90 shattered the structures that had enclosed international politics and freed the Arctic from the constraints placed upon it by superpower confrontation. The Canadian government found its international policy, especially in the area of defence and the Arctic, totally confused at a moment when the recently re-elected Prime Minister Brian Mulroney was eager to step onto the international stage.

When the Berlin Wall fell in November 1989, the Canadian plan to build nuclear submarines for the Arctic quickly died. Moreover, the Soviet Union and Canada shared the largest Arctic shorelines and passages across the North. External Affairs now believed Gorbachev's proposals required a response, and External Affairs Minister Joe Clark prepared to make a historic speech calling for the creation of a council to bring together Arctic states to deal with the region's political, environmental, social, and security problems. Then Mulroney travelled to Leningrad and proposed the formation of the council on November 24, 1989.

But the idea did not catch fire. The Soviet Union began to fall apart, Gorbachev was fatally weakened, and the United States would have nothing to do with Mulroney's proposal, which envisaged a role for the new council in security questions. As the superpowers stepped away from the stage, smaller states remained active, as did NGOs, which in the early 1990s rushed to fill political vacuums.

The Finns, horrified by the nuclear waste and environmental threats posed by the collapse of the Soviet Union, took the lead in promoting an Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS), which was formally recognized at Rovaniemi, Finland, in June 1991 by Canada, Denmark/Greenland, Russia, Norway, the United States, Finland, Sweden, and Iceland.

The AEPS was focused on the environment — the Americans remained adamantly opposed to any security component — and initially had four working groups: the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program; Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna; Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment; and Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response. Importantly, the AEPS involved the participation of indigenous peoples, who were declared "permanent participants." They took part in meetings and working groups and were excluded only from meetings of heads of delegations. The initial permanent participants were the Inuit Circumpolar Council, the Saami of Scandinavia, and representatives of Russian indigenous peoples.

The AEPS lacked financial resources and, more importantly, political clout. Accordingly, the post-Cold War environment continued to promote attempts to establish broader co-operation across the Arctic. During the so-called Finnish initiative to create an environmental forum, Canada continued to advance the idea of an Arctic council. In the early 1990s, a new concept of human security emerged. It was vague in details but essentially argued that security must go beyond state-centric visions. In other words, states faced limitations on what they could do within their own boundaries and in the treatment of their own people.

The argument appealed strongly to indigenous peoples, especially in the Arctic. The AEPS, at Canada's suggestion, incorporated a sustainable development component in 1993, and it linked easily with the human security initiatives undertaken by Lloyd Axworthy after he became Canada's foreign minister in 1996.

But the idea of an Arctic council met much resistance, especially from the United States, which wanted to limit the role of the permanent participants of the AEPS and to exclude any discussion of security. The renewed Canadian attempt to put together a new council stumbled. A frustrated Mary Simon, as Canada's Arctic ambassador, asked the other states if they would form a council if the United States refused to join. The answer was no. Turning to personal diplomacy, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien finally persuaded U.S. President Bill Clinton to give American support for the council, and it was officially created in Ottawa in September 1996.

The *New York Times* did not note the occasion, and

L'Arctique canadien
Canada's Arctic

CANADIAN PRESS

Lawrence Cannon, Canada's minister of foreign affairs from 2008 to 2011, at the International Relations Council on Arctic sovereignty in Montreal, 2009.

Canadian coverage was mostly restricted to a brief Canadian Press report. There was much left undone. The working groups of the AEPS continued and formed the core of the new council. The permanent participants maintained their presence at the council table, although their precise role was the topic of angry debate. There were no terms of reference and no working plan.

While some, including Canada, wanted the council to set out a definite program, one that would gain intellectual coherence through a focus on sustainable development, the United States favoured a more limited vision of individual projects and questioned the Canadian definition of sustainable development. There was also controversy about the place of observers; the permanent participants were especially wary of environmental NGOs. Simon, the first council chair, would face enormous challenges.

Not surprisingly, expectations were modest. Only three people worked directly for the new council's secretariat in offices located in Vanier, an outlying neighbourhood of Ottawa far from the capital's centres of power. When Canada passed the chair position to the United States after its term ended in 1998, the council's fate seemed much in doubt. The working groups continued valuable scientific research, issued reports, and despaired when politicians did not respond. Ministers avoided council meetings, officials dominated decision-making, and the indigenous peoples found the costs of participation greater than their resources.

At the beginning of the new millennium, the Arctic Council was on the sidelines, a disappointment to its promoters and an irritant to some officials eager to work on matters they thought were more significant. The Arctic Council, nevertheless, began to prove its worth. It took a lead in the research on persistent organic pollutants, and the importance of collaboration between scientists and indigenous populations became clear. Its influence was apparent in the 2001 Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

In 2004, the presentation of the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment had an even greater impact, and the assessment's conclusions about the broader global impact of a warming Arctic profoundly affected popular and scientific debate. Suddenly, the Arctic mattered; by the decade's end the Arctic was "hot."

On March 29, 2010, Hillary Clinton emerged from a meeting room at Meech Lake, north of Ottawa. The first American secretary of state to attend an Arctic Council meeting, Clinton condemned the Canadian government for convening a gathering of the five Arctic coastal states rather than the full Arctic Council, which would have included indigenous peoples and Iceland, Sweden, and Finland. She sternly rebuked her Canadian hosts by declaring, "significant international discussions on Arctic issues should include those who have legitimate interests in the region." In an echo of Canadian arguments of the mid-1990s, Clinton added, "I hope the Arctic will always showcase our ability to work together, not create new divisions."

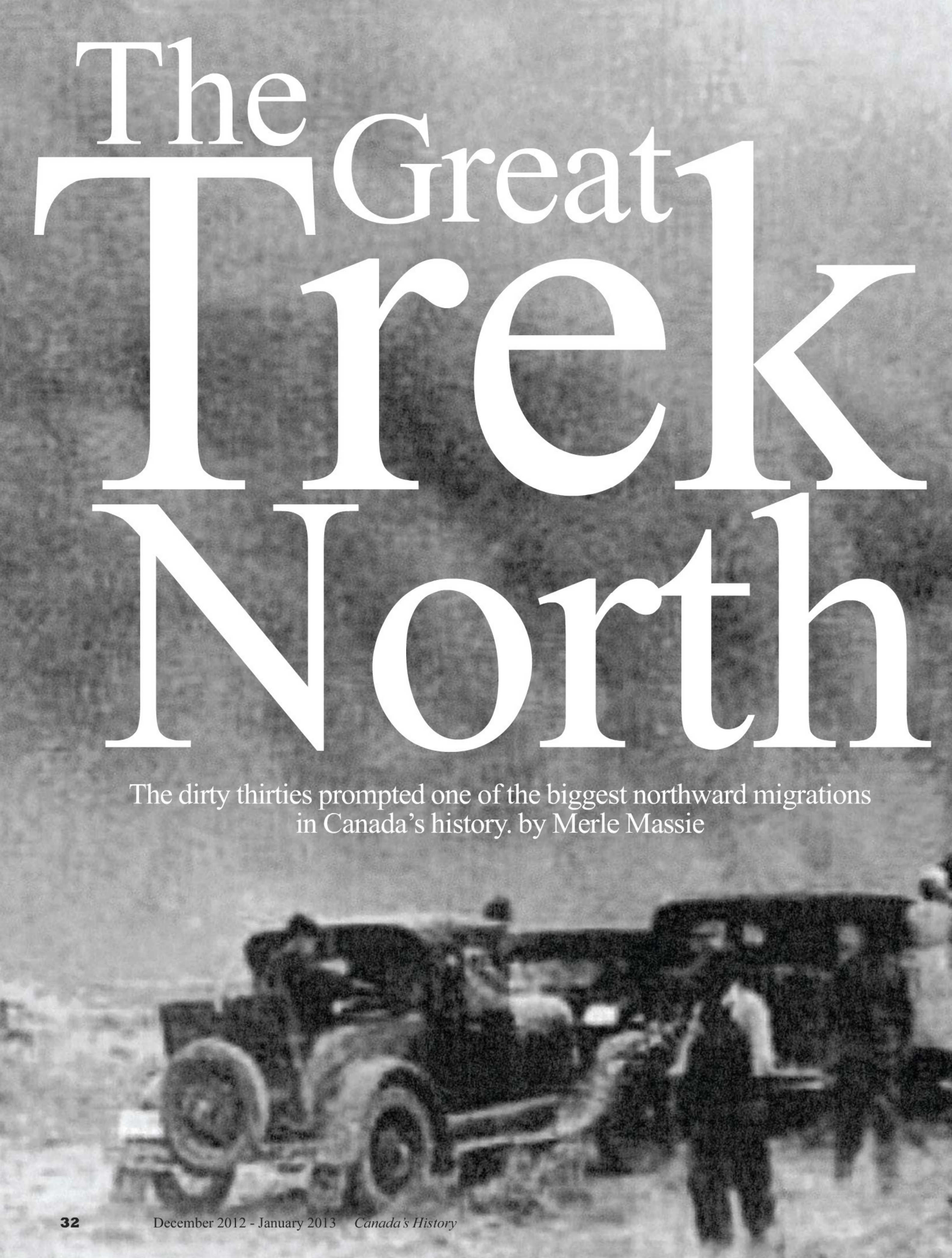
Where Bill Clinton's administration had been skeptical about the Arctic Council, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was an eloquent advocate of its purposes. Ironically, the Conservative Canadian government under Stephen Harper initially seemed dubious about the council, perhaps because of its origins in Liberal human security diplomacy. Recently, its attitude has changed, and it has become a strong promoter.

Whatever the cause of its earlier hesitations, the Harper government now recognizes the importance of the Arctic Council to Canada's international interests. Indeed, it points out — correctly — that the Conservatives under Mulroney made the first international proposal for such a council. Canada is making the Arctic Council the core of its approach to the Arctic and will assume the chair in 2013 with Minister of Health Leona Aglukkaq as the head of the council. With Arctic ice melting, a rush to exploit resources developing, and a world turning towards the North as never before, the Arctic Council promises to have a future far more important than its founders could ever have imagined.

John English is the general editor of the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* and the former director of the Centre for International Governance Innovation.

The Great Trek North

The dirty thirties prompted one of the biggest northward migrations in Canada's history. by Merle Massie



A dust storm hovers over migrants leaving drought-stricken areas of Saskatchewan in this Depression-era photo.

April 1934. Tenant farmer Sargent McGowan of the east Weyburn district of southern Saskatchewan empties his farmhouse, machine shed, and barn. At the local railroad siding, McGowan loads a boxcar with the remnants of his life: cows, chickens, plow, seed grain, household furniture, kitchen supplies, bedding, and provisions. Then he drives his team and wagon up the ramp and into the boxcar. He unhitches and settles the team, secures all his belongings, and looks around. Ready. On the platform stand his wife, Muriel, and two small daughters, waving goodbye. They will take a later passenger train to join him; the grandparents, about to be left behind, need a little more time.

As the train leaves the siding, McGowan cracks the door open for one last look at the drought-stricken land he is abandoning, wondering again if he is making the right decision. But the landscape answers him. A sudden, intense dust storm whips across the horizon and engulfs the train. Black, whirling clouds of once-productive soil dried and pounded by the wind block his vision. Despite being at the rear of the train, he cannot see the caboose. McGowan covers his mouth with a handkerchief and withdraws, shuts the door, and settles with the animals for the three-day journey.

Right: Muriel and Sargent McGowan, July 24, 1930.

Far right, opposite page: The highlighted part of the map shows the Great Trek region of Saskatchewan in the 1930s.

Sargent McGowan was a Great Depression refugee. He was the victim of both an agricultural commodity price crash and a devastating drought that would hold farmers across the Great Plains of North America in its arid grip for more than nine years. Between 1929 and 1938 — the dirty thirties — farmers watched their dust-seeded crops blow away with the winds.

Shelves of books have been written about the Great Depression — the long lines of hungry men waiting at soup kitchens, the unemployed riding the rails in search of work, the abject poverty of families on relief, the infamous On-to-Ottawa trek of relief camp labourers. Many of today's elderly were scarred and defined by their experiences of those years. Across Canada every week, people are moved to nursing homes while their families sift through houses stuffed with things their owners were unable to part with — broken toasters, bundles of egg cartons, scraps of wire, and piles of margarine containers — the flotsam of lives spent with the Depression firmly in the rear-view mirror.

Yet one Depression story has never fully bobbed into the Canadian national consciousness. Like John Steinbeck's famous novel *The Grapes of Wrath* (recounting the Depression exodus of Okies to the promise of California), Canada experienced its own exodus of impoverished rural dwellers. Some went west to places like British Columbia's Okanagan Valley and some gave up farming altogether and went to the cities. But many more went north. In one of the largest instances of internal migration in Canadian history, an estimated forty-five thousand Saskatchewan climate refugees relocated from the prairie to the northern parkland and boreal forest fringe.

The movement north became known as the Great Trek. Motivated in part by cheap land — in 1930 the Saskatchewan government opened up thousands of hectares of northern Crown land to settlement — aspiring homesteaders hoped for a more prosperous life. Thousands travelled overland in trains, cars, trucks, covered wagons, or homebuilt shacks on wheels fashioned from boards torn from granaries. Bennett buggies — horse-drawn cars (who could afford gas or oil?) named after Prime Minister R.B. Bennett — were much in evidence. Carrying possessions salvaged from their prairie homes, including hinges, door handles, and rolls of linoleum, the trekkers resembled gypsies. Camping out each night, their fires danced along the roadsides for miles. To veterans of the First World War, the sight was all too reminiscent of the

long lines of refugees in war-torn Europe.

The trekkers were drawn north in part because the region had two resources that were scarce on the prairies: water and wood. While the open plains withered, areas along the forest fringe flourished with enough rain and snow to fill wells and grow crops, pastures, and gardens. Trees cut from their homesteads were used to build shelter and to serve as fuel for heating.

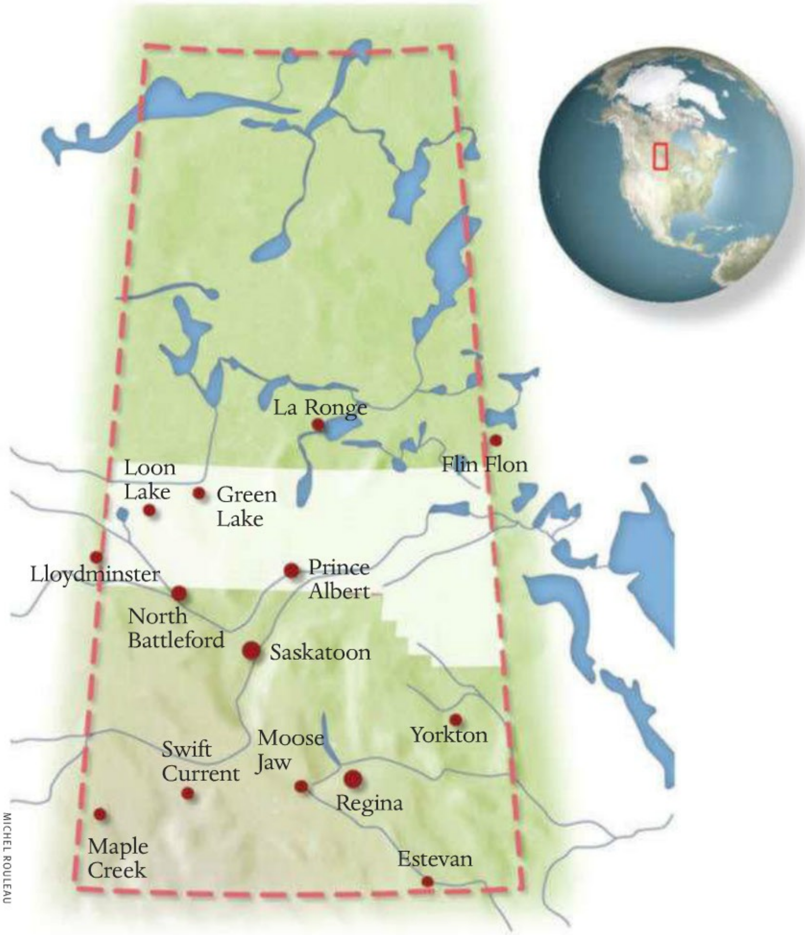
Sargent McGowan's wife, Muriel, and his son, Sargent Ernest McGowan, recorded the family's move north in 1982 in the local history book *Cordwood and Courage*. When Sargent McGowan slid open the boxcar door at the Paddockwood station north of Prince Albert, he saw two things that had not been seen in Weyburn for some time: a thick blanket of snow on the ground and the busyness on the street.

"My father said that he had not seen that many teams of horses in one place in his entire life," recalled McGowan Jr., who wasn't yet born when the family moved to Paddockwood. "The town was full of them, and the hustle and bustle of train day and cordwood loads and just plain shopping and talking was enough to put the memory of Weyburn back behind a huge cloud of dust, and there it stayed for the entire life of my father."

Muriel and the girls arrived in Prince Albert a few weeks later, in early May, and hired a taxi to take them out to the farm. "When we swung east at Northside on the road towards Paddockwood, I couldn't believe my eyes," said Muriel. "It looked like we were headed into a big slough." The snow had melted in the spring and sunshine and water flowed everywhere. "With Rogers [the taxi service] there was no hesitation. He wheeled the car through the water, missed the biggest holes, bounced over the cordwood covering the muskegs, and we arrived very safely."

Muriel's husband, a natural horseman, had his own view of that muskeg. His son later wrote, "The first week [Dad] was in this country he made eight dollars pulling stuck cars out of the muskeg. As far as he was concerned the road was in good shape!"

As southern communities crumbled into the dust, northern economies experienced a relative boom, buoyed by thousands of new migrants and commodities and industries that were in demand: woodcutting, commercial fishing, trapping, mining, and tourism. Prince Albert National Park, not far from Paddockwood, opened in 1928. Its popularity skyrocketed — nearly thirty thousand people visited in 1931 alone.



MICHEL ROULEAU

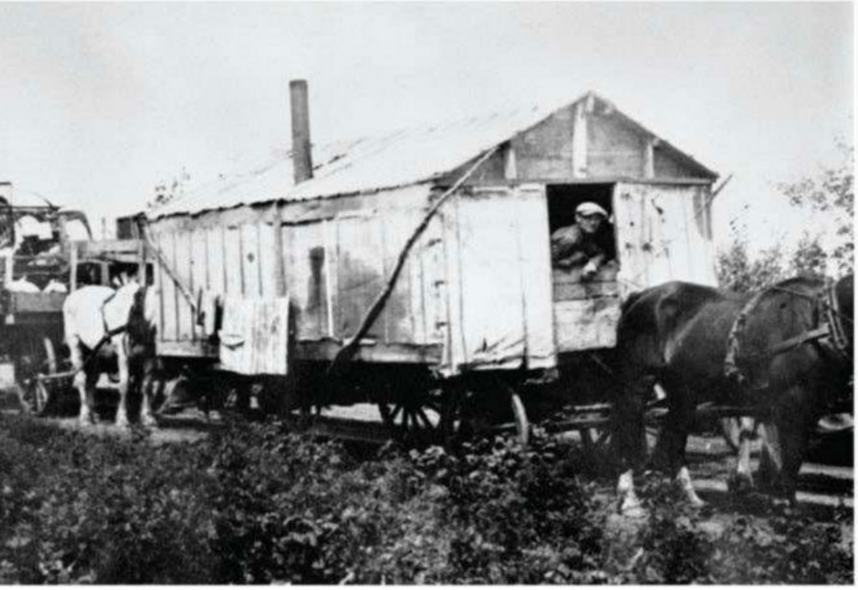
People in other provinces also moved northward during the Depression — the Clay Belt of northeastern Ontario and northwestern Quebec drew settlement, as did the swampy Interlake region of Manitoba. Historians have categorized the migrations as a reactive and desperate last-ditch attempt to farm anywhere at any cost. Northern farms were dismissed as "places of last resort" due to their poorer soils, increased frost risk, and back-breaking work to clear the land of trees to grow crops. Some migrants told tales of misery — of settling on swampy, stony ground, losing animals to swamp fever, and battling swarms of mosquitoes and black flies.

However, oral stories and local history books from the forest fringe in Saskatchewan and Alberta tell a different tale — of adaptation and resilience, of refuge in the face of ecological disaster.

disaster. Saskatchewan book titles reflect migration experiences: *After the Dust* by the Leoville Historical Committee; *Cordwood and Courage* by the Paddockwood Historical Society; *North to New Beginnings* by the Smeaton Historical Society.

Edna Dobie of Prince Albert was twelve years old when her extended family moved from a farm near Moosomin to the Prince Albert region in late 1931. Tall spruce and deep moss greeted the prairie children. In an interview in 2009, Edna said, "We kids thought that we had moved to fairyland. Our new homestead was filled with Christmas trees!" Then she added, "But I'm sure it was hard on my parents. It's hard to farm that kind of land."

No one could make much money selling farm products during the 1930s, but across the North a healthy subsistence and barter economy thrived. Muriel McGowan explained: "Ours was definitely a 'mixed' farming activity. We exchanged 'clucking' hens for an orphan ewe lamb from our neighbour. This was the nucleus of a small flock until coyotes became a nuisance." Dairy cattle provided milk, meat, and butter, and the cheese factory and the dairy provided welcome cheques.



GLENBOW ARCHIVES NA-1609-1

Horses pull the possessions of a Saskatchewan family moving north from a dried-out farm in Morse to Carrot River in 1934.

"Pigs thrived on surplus skim milk and provided meat, especially the cured pork so necessary for summer protein before refrigeration," noted Muriel. "Chickens provided meat and eggs. Turkeys, although more difficult to raise, provided meat as well as some cash when sold in the fall. Sheep gave us meat and wool."

After the experience of watching dust storms and drought decimate her prairie garden, Muriel was pleased to watch in "amazement as late-seeded crops and gardens grew inches, it seemed, overnight. [We] were thankful for the flavourful, bountiful harvest from the small garden plot, enough to last until the next harvest, and even the turnips were edible."

As subsistence farming gained ground, trekkers found off-farm employment in forest-based industries that provided cash opportunities not found in the prairie south. There were short-term jobs to be found in commercial fishing, lumber and cordwood cutting, mining, firefighting, and freighting goods to remote camps. Tourists, drawn to the national park and other nearby recreation destinations, demanded provisions, opening a market for local farmers to sell their produce.

The flock of tourists every summer and fall showed that the forest edge provided plenty of game and fish. But Muriel and Sargent were not used to living off the land in this manner. A successful fishing expedition one spring brought "a tubful of fish. Without refrigeration, what could I do with them?" Muriel said. Her husband's lone hunting expedition ended when he became hopelessly lost. "Sargent vowed never to go again, that he would pick his own meat, on the hoof, in his own farmyard, which he did," said Muriel.

Paddockwood's economy ran on an unusual currency: cordwood (stove wood) was the barter staple. As such, Edna Dobie's one-hundred-sixty-acre homestead full of Christmas trees was the new cash crop. Shopkeepers took cordwood (along with eggs, milk, butter, meat, and furs) on trade for groceries or necessities. The local Red Cross Outpost Hospital would also take cordwood or farm products as payment. At a time when houses were still heated with either wood or coal, trees — which had to be cleared, anyway, to earn a farm patent — could be turned to profit.

The McGowan and Dobie families, like thousands of others, decided that subsistence living in the North trumped living on meagre relief payments in the south. Relief payments during the 1930s were, after all, loans. Throughout the Great Depression, relief costs across the northern areas of Saskatchewan were less than one-tenth the cost of relief to prairie communities.

Astonishingly high expenditures on relief in southern municipalities were acceptable, Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister J.G. Taggart declared in 1939, because the price was "small in relation to the wealth produced in this drought area" in past years. Saskatchewan was reluctant to declare any of its land unsuitable for farming. The federal Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration, established in 1935, supported tree planting, strip farming, digging dugouts for water catchment, grass reseeding, and community pasture projects — measures aimed at bringing ecological stability to the drought region.

W.J. Mather, writing for *Maclean's* magazine in 1932, called the trek made in 1931 alone "the greatest internal migration Canada has seen," with each north-south Saskatchewan highway becoming the scene of a one-way procession. Surprisingly, the story of the Depression migration has almost disappeared from Canadian public memory. Blinded by Canadian census figures, historians draw a straight line from the Great Depression to Saskatchewan's depopulation: In 1931, there were 921,785 people in Saskatchewan; by 1941, there were 895,992, a loss of almost 26,000 people. They left, historians have argued, because of the drought and the Depression.

Such a bleak presentation glosses over the nuances of what really happened. Saskatchewan's population continued to climb throughout the 1930s. By 1936, despite widespread depopulation of the southern prairies, Saskatchewan's population had grown by ten thousand people, to 931,547. While the southern exodus saw population drops of twenty percent or more, northern communities gained. New villages sprung up across the forest fringe.

While the rural population shifted north, the urban population of Saskatchewan dropped by over ten thousand people between 1931 and 1936. Urban migrants — influenced by a back-to-the-land idealism and municipal relief policies — could also be found trekking north. Communities such as Loon Lake, once called "Little Saskatoon," formed from urban migrants funded by relief money to relocate onto subsistence farms.

The Great Depression and the dirty thirties severed the connection between agriculture and the external market. Aspirations narrowed. Back-to-the-land ideals, barter, and subsistence trumped market-oriented agriculture.

The northern exodus slowed by the mid-1930s, particularly by 1937, when even the North was hit by one of the most severe drought years on record. Prairie refugees — and some northern sojourners — began to move west to the warm promise of the Okanagan. Still, northern migration did not stop until the Second World War brought prosperity to the economic market and the drought receded.

Returning veterans who took loans to re-establish on farms contributed to a short-lived postwar rural boom across the province. Through mechanized clearing and breaking, farms that had once been one hundred and sixty acres of bush looked "like the prairies" by the 1960s, according to the *Prince Albert Daily Herald*.

That same mechanization led to widespread rural depopulation and decline both on the prairies and across the forest fringe. Some northern farmers found their land reclassified as "marginal" compared to the once-again-healthy prairie agricultural landscape.

As mechanization and expansion pulled agriculture in bold new directions, subsistence-based mixed family farms were slowly but surely left behind. Yet thousands of people, like Sargent and Muriel McGowan, stayed, building lives and raising their families in the North.

How the land was lost

The plains were sensitive to drought for two reasons: wheat monoculture and cropping techniques. Wheat was a seductive crop. Requiring less than six months of labour and little investment, it brought the best cash returns and was not hard to grow. Since it was easy to store and transport, both the homestead system and the railways were built on the wheat economy.

But cropping techniques designed for wheat monoculture decimated prairie soil. Straight wheat farming, even rotated with fallow (allowing the land to rest every other year) did not replenish lost nutrients. Plowing and harrowing the land to kill weeds during fallow years pulverized the land. Mixed farming techniques, such as planting legumes to fix nitrogen in the soil or spreading manure on the land, were ignored by many. The practice of "wheat mining" — mining the land through successive cropping, then selling out — was rampant.

Single men, the mainstay of the western homestead experiment, wanted the flexibility to leave their farms and take short-term cash labour opportunities; the livestock of a mixed farm would tie them down. The gender imbalance was also a factor: Women and children were necessary to run a successful mixed farm. Without a family to share the load, single men opted for the simplicity of the wheat economy.

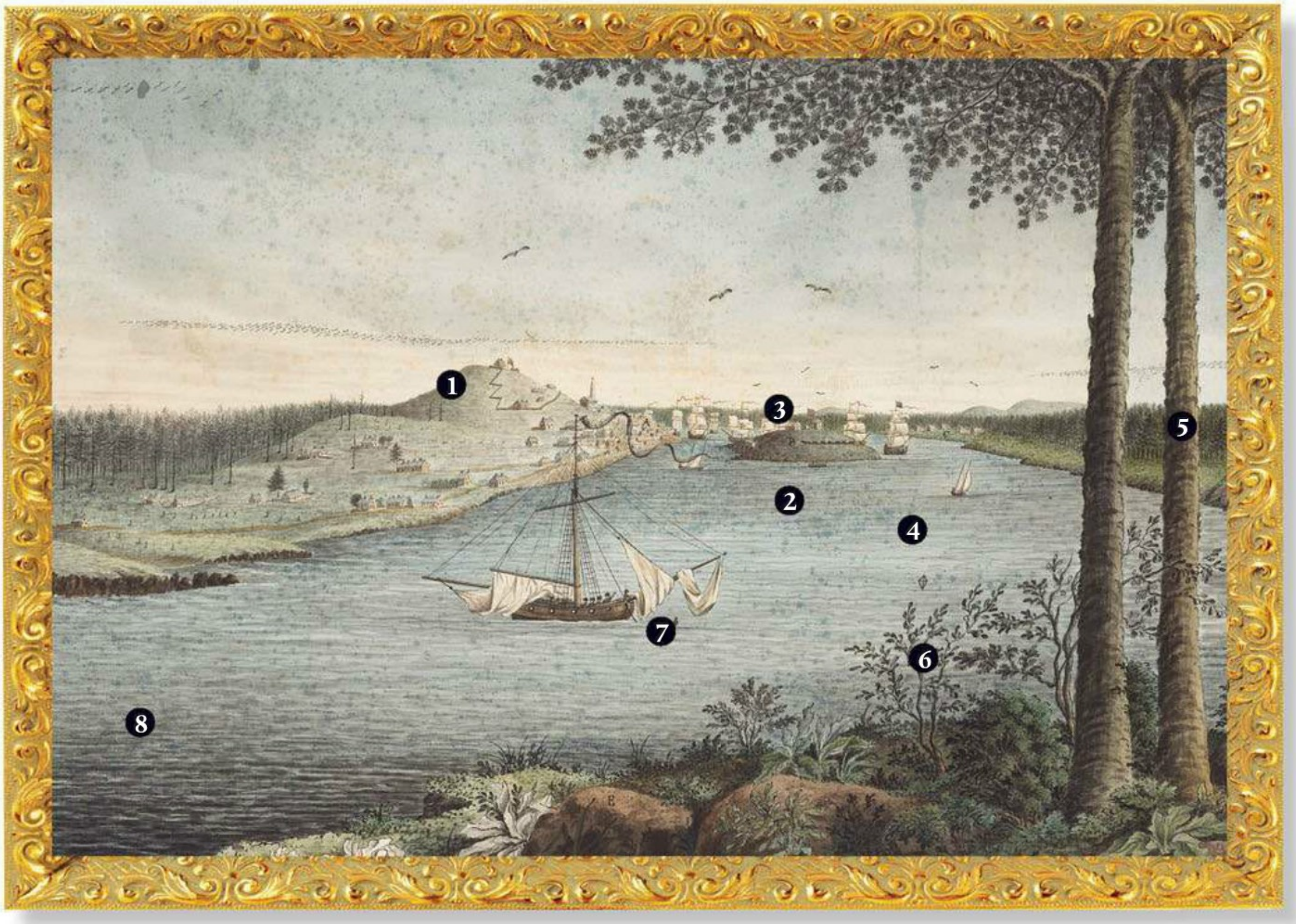
When droughts hit, devastation was rampant. Yields plummeted, which affected both wheat (cash) as well as fodder crops. Without a cash crop, farmers could not pay their debts or taxes. Without adequate feed, horses, cows, pigs, and chickens declined. Grasshopper infestations and crop disease escalated. Wells went dry and rivers shrank into stagnant, undrinkable streams. Starvation for human and beast seemed imminent.

Faced with such bleakness, farmers simply left, taking their animals and their families to places where at least the basics of life could be found.

Recent census maps still show a concentrated population in parkland and forest fringe regions, as compared to the old Palliser Triangle of southwest Saskatchewan. The Great Trek changed the face of Saskatchewan: The prairie population declined, the parkland filled to capacity, and migrants pushed back the edges of the forest.

Debilitated by early-onset Alzheimer's disease, Sargent McGowan was lucky that his wife and son could retell his stories of the move from Weyburn to Paddockwood. His grandchildren grew up knowing that the Great Trek was a defining moment in the family's identity.

If home is where the heart is, then they were from Saskatchewan, but the younger McGowans knew they were definitely not from the prairies.



NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA, OTTAWA

A view from Cornwallis Island in 1757

Thomas Davies' painting of Halifax Harbour shows its islands and Royal Navy ships.

By Ryan Kessler

❶ *A View of Halifax in Nova Scotia, Taken from Cornwallis Island, with a Squadron Going off to Louisbourg, in the year 1757*, shows the area's highest peak, Citadel Hill, where a series of four English forts were built to protect Halifax.

❷ George's Island operated as a prison camp for Acadian detainees, a quarantine station, and a gunned defence post for the harbour.

❸ Behind George's Island is Bedford Basin. Because it was protected by Citadel Hill and George's Island, the basin allowed fleets to gather safely before being deployed.

❹ This small ship — called a sloop — was known for its speed. The Royal Navy used sloops for transporting goods, sending communications, and engaging larger, slower ships in battle.

❺ Dartmouth was founded in 1750 in the forested area across the harbour from Halifax. It was the site of the 1751 Dartmouth Massacre, where Mi'kmaq warriors and Acadians killed twenty civilian settlers.

❻ Cornwallis Island was renamed McNabs Island in the 1780s. It includes Hangman's Beach, where the Royal Navy would hang pirates as a warning to potential deserters.

❼ Frigates like this were typically scouting vessels. However, they could also attack in numbers, using guns mounted on their upper decks.

❽ Halifax Harbour opens up to the Atlantic Ocean. The ships shown in the painting would travel north along the east coast of Nova Scotia to reach the French outpost at Louisbourg.

CANADA'S
HISTORY
TRAVELS

CANADA'S HISTORY: THE WORLD WARS
BELGIUM • FRANCE
WITH JACK GRANATSTEIN

Author/Historian
Jack Granatstein

Program Fee Includes:

Airfare:
Round-trip airfare

Transportation:
Comfortable motorcoach

Accommodations:
7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms

Meals:
European breakfast daily, dinners on days 2 and 8

Tour Director:
Full-time EF tour director

Sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides:
Vimy (Canada Parks Guide)
Beaumont-Hamel (Canada Parks Guide)

Sightseeing tours led by your tour director:
Dieppe

Entrance Fees to all entrances as indicated on the itinerary

Gratuities for tour director and bus driver

Tour Information

Departure Date: Saturday, September 14, 2013
Return Date: Sunday, September 22, 2013
Number of Days: 9
Gateway: Toronto

Itinerary

Day 1	Overnight flight to Brussels
Day 2	Brussels
Day 3	Brussels • Arras
Day 4	Vimy Region • Arras
Day 5	Vimy Region • Arras
Day 6	Vimy Region • Dieppe • Caen
Day 7	Caen • Normandy Beaches
Day 8	Caen • Paris
Day 9	Depart for Home

TOTAL	$4,639

All prices are subject to verification by an EF Tour Consultant.

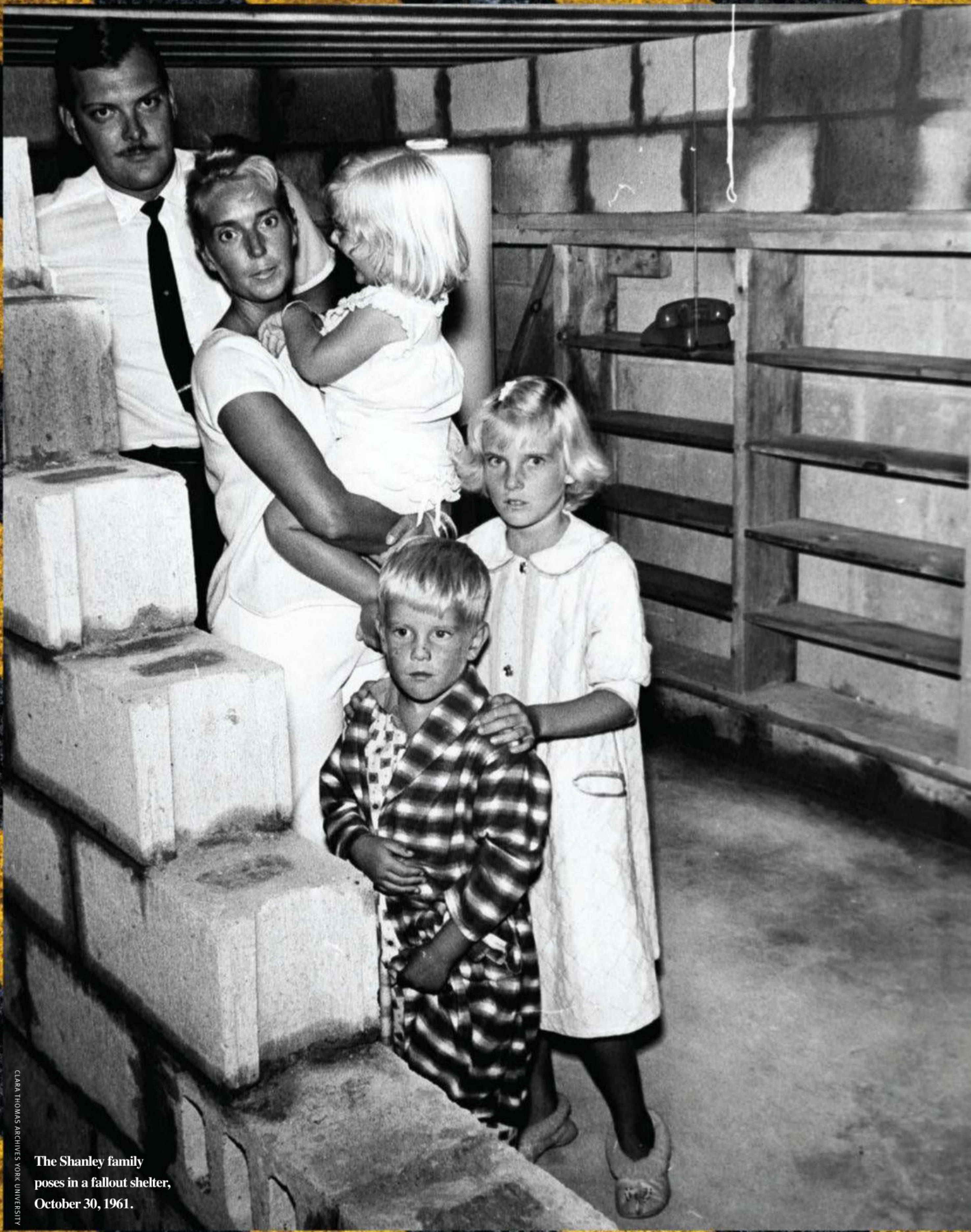
Suzanne Caniglia | Suzanne.Caniglia@ef.com | 1-800-387-1460

To view EF's booking Conditions, please visit **www.eftours.ca**

Tour Items not included: • All Inclusive Insurance Plan $149 • Optional single room supplement $360

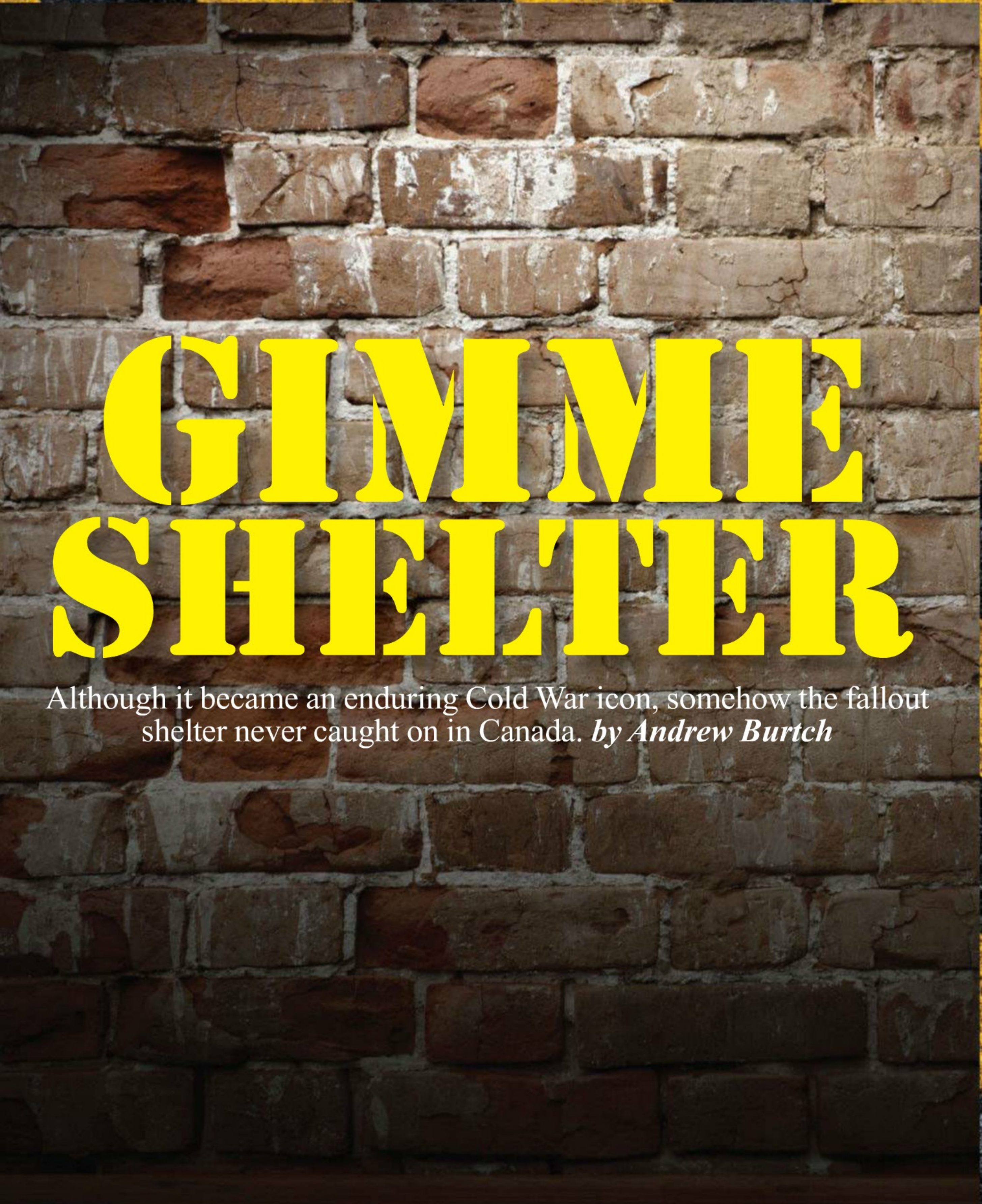
*Program fee is valid for all who enrol through February 28, 2013.
Program fee is based on twin rooming (two twin beds). All other fees are subject to change.
Please note this itinerary is subject to change
** Departure fees are subject to change.

EF Education First
Educational Tours



The Shanley family poses in a fallout shelter, October 30, 1961.

CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES YORK UNIVERSITY



GIMME SHELTER

Although it became an enduring Cold War icon, somehow the fallout shelter never caught on in Canada. ***by Andrew Burtch***

In October 1959, Defence Minister George Pearkes kicked off an ambitious civil defence campaign. At a press conference in Ottawa, the retired general and Victoria Cross recipient optimistically unveiled the government's simple design for a nuclear fallout shelter. "Anyone who's handy with a saw and hammer" could afford to build such a shelter in their basement or backyard, he said. With the Cold War in full swing and fear of nuclear war at its height, the Canadian government expected citizens to seize on the opportunity to construct a family refuge from radiation for as little as five hundred dollars.

CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES YORK UNIVERSITY

Above: Workers assemble a fallout shelter for a *Toronto Telegram* exhibition at Queen's Park, 1955.

Opposite page: A blueprint of the Regency Acres demonstration fallout shelter in Aurora, Ontario, 1959.

FALLOUT SHELTER
IN BASEMENT

Certainly the danger was real. Two years after the federal government's fallout shelter push, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev ordered a test of a fifty-megaton thermonuclear weapon in Siberia.

The mammoth bomb was nicknamed "Tsar Bomba" and had a force equivalent to fifty million tons of TNT. By way of comparison, the bomb that destroyed Hiroshima was equivalent to twenty thousand tons of TNT.

Tsar Bomba still ranks as the most powerful man-made explosion in history. Detonated on October 30, 1961, at a height of four kilometres above the ground, its energy destroyed buildings more than a hundred kilometres away. The bomb's giant fireball sucked thousands of pounds of irradiated dirt into a mushroom cloud sixty kilometres high. Winds in the upper atmosphere carried the fallout east across the Pacific Ocean and towards North America.

The Canadian government condemned the tests, while at the same time downplaying the risks to public health. Tsar Bomba turned out to be relatively "clean" as nuclear tests go — it took about forty-eight hours for its particles to reach to the ground, and by that time most of the radiation had decayed.

Tsar Bomba's psychological effect was more far-reaching. It launched a new wave of atomic anxiety and came just as the Canadian government was about to launch a massive public civil defence exercise known as Tocsin B.

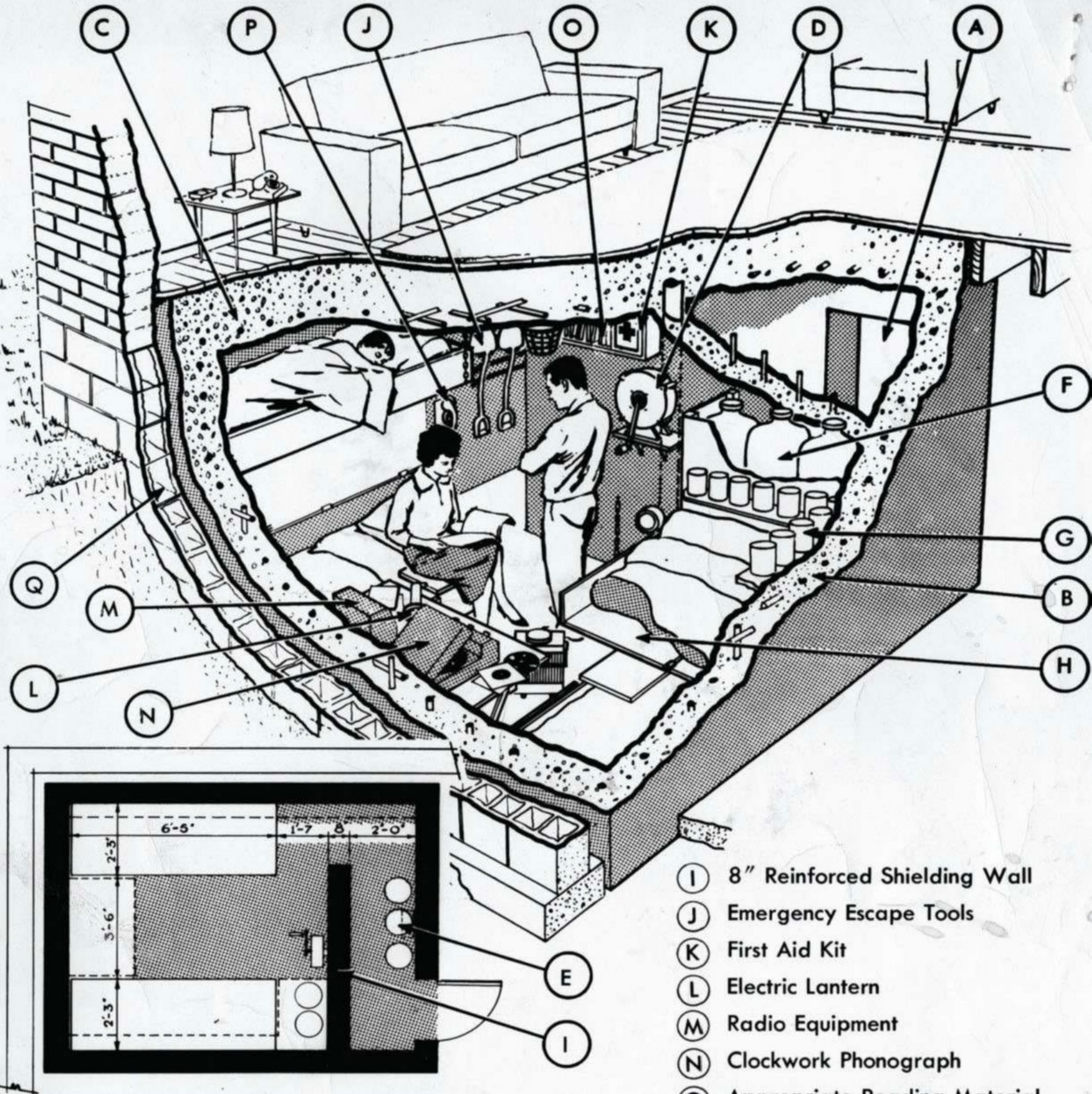
On November 12, 1961, Prime Minister John Diefenbaker's jowly countenance interrupted television programs for a national address to explain why the exercise was necessary. He told citizens that they were preparing for a possible nuclear war where Canada would be a part of the battleground. "In any case, Canadians will be exposed to the peril of radioactive fallout from the United States."

The next day, the exercise unfolded. Air raid sirens blared while broadcasters narrated a nightmare scenario of nuclear weapons exploding over Canada's cities. The CBC's Norman DePoe described the grim damage: "Halifax — gone. Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara Falls, Windsor, Edmonton, Vancouver — all gone. Scores of smaller places knocked flat or blanketed by fallout. Perhaps half of our industrial capacity gone and half our electric power. Casualties estimated at two and a quarter million dead, one and a half million injured."

The Canadian government had been considering the impact of a nuclear war — and how to protect citizens — since shortly after the Second World War. Of all the possible results of such a war — massive casualties, out of control fires, large numbers of displaced people — nothing was as threatening as nuclear fallout.

The threat from fallout rendered most of the government's early plans ineffective. Cities could be evacuated, but if left in the open the public would soon die of radiation sickness in the countryside. Moreover, if the Soviets launched missiles instead of bombers, attack warning would fall from three hours to fifteen minutes, leaving the public with no time to flee.

After a long period of study, the government deter-



Ⓐ Half-Inch Rolled Steel Door with Rubber Seal
Ⓑ 12″ Reinforced Concrete Walls
Ⓒ 20″ Thick Reinforced Concrete Roof
Ⓓ Hand-Operated Ventilation Blower and Filter
Ⓔ Chemical Toilet
Ⓕ Water Containers
Ⓖ Food Supplies and Utensils
Ⓗ Folding Sleeping Cots
Ⓘ 8″ Reinforced Shielding Wall
Ⓙ Emergency Escape Tools
Ⓚ First Aid Kit
Ⓛ Electric Lantern
Ⓜ Radio Equipment
Ⓝ Clockwork Phonograph
Ⓞ Appropriate Reading Material
Ⓟ Telephone Extension
Ⓠ Outer Wall of House

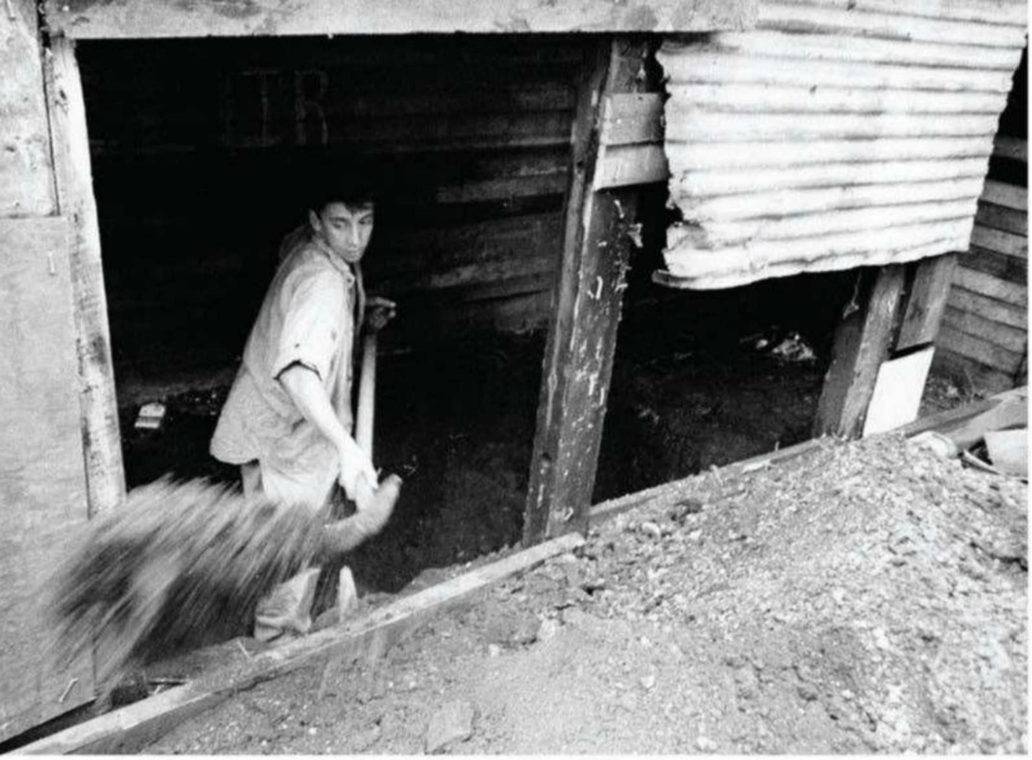
FAMILY SURVIVAL SHELTER

Regency Acres

AURORA

CONSOLIDATED BUILDING CORPORATION LIMITED
TORONTO AURORA WHITBY AJAX OAKVILLE RICHMOND HILL SCARBORO ETOBICOKE
CANADA'S LARGEST BUILDERS OF LOW COST LUXURY HOMES

CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES YORK UNIVERSITY



CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES YORK UNIVERSITY

Above: At the height of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, Stan Williams digs a fallout shelter at his family's home in Scarborough, Ontario.

mined that the best solution to the fallout problem was for the public to build shelters in their basements or underground. Television programs accompanying the Tocsin B exercise showed calm families entering their basement shelters and tuning in to the radio. Officials interviewed during the coverage urged Canadians to build a shelter and directed them to contact their local Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) office to obtain instructions.

By the time of the Tocsin B test, Diefenbaker's campaign to get the public to start digging had been in full swing for the better part of two years. The EMO put out planning booklets with titles such as *Your Basement Fallout Shelter* and *11 Steps to Survival*. The shelters could supposedly be built for as little as five hundred dollars, the equivalent of four thousand dollars today.

But how could simple underground structures of cinderblocks and timber save lives? Distance and time were the best defence. The radiation emitted by fallout particles was only harmful within a few feet. Cinderblock walls filled with mortar, earth, or sand would block most of the radiation, leaving the family inside unharmed. The EMO hoped that the intensity of the fallout outdoors would decline to survivable levels within fourteen days after an attack. Families were instructed to stock their shelters with enough supplies to survive this two-week period and to have a radio on hand to listen for the government to give the all-clear.

It is not surprising that the fallout shelter became one of the lasting icons of the Cold War. The image of the shelter as a safe haven emerged soon after the end of the Second World War, as science fiction writers, popular science magazines, and official government agencies all pondered the future of defence. Visions of futuristic cities whose buildings could descend into the earth on receipt of an attack warning, or massive shelters built into mountainsides, proliferated in popular media.

Civil defence officials used shelter publicity whenever they proselytized about nuclear preparedness. Model shelters became popular public attractions at trade fairs, conventions, and events such as the Canadian National Exhibition. Home builders such as the Consolidated Building Corporation, eager to cash in on public interest in fallout shelters, began advertising home fallout shelters as an option in their Regency Acres suburb in Aurora, Ontario.

Yet, despite years of exposure to the idea of the fallout shelter in the media and in government publicity, by 1963 emergency planners estimated that only two thousand shelters had been built across Canada, even after the terror of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Why did a shelter program that was promoted as the only protection available to Canadian families in the event of nuclear war fail so spectacularly?

One major obstacle to the program's success was the fact that basement fallout shelters proved considerably more difficult and costly to build than was advertised. One of the engineers who tested the government's shelter design before its launch remarked

KITCHENER-WATERLOO RECORD

Right: Students at a Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, high school practice a "duck-and-cover" drill in 1951.

Opposite page: A woman examines a model shelter at an exhibition mounted by Manitoba's Emergency Measures Organization in 1962.

PROTEC
Your
BASEMENT FALLOUT
SHELTER
ANITOBA

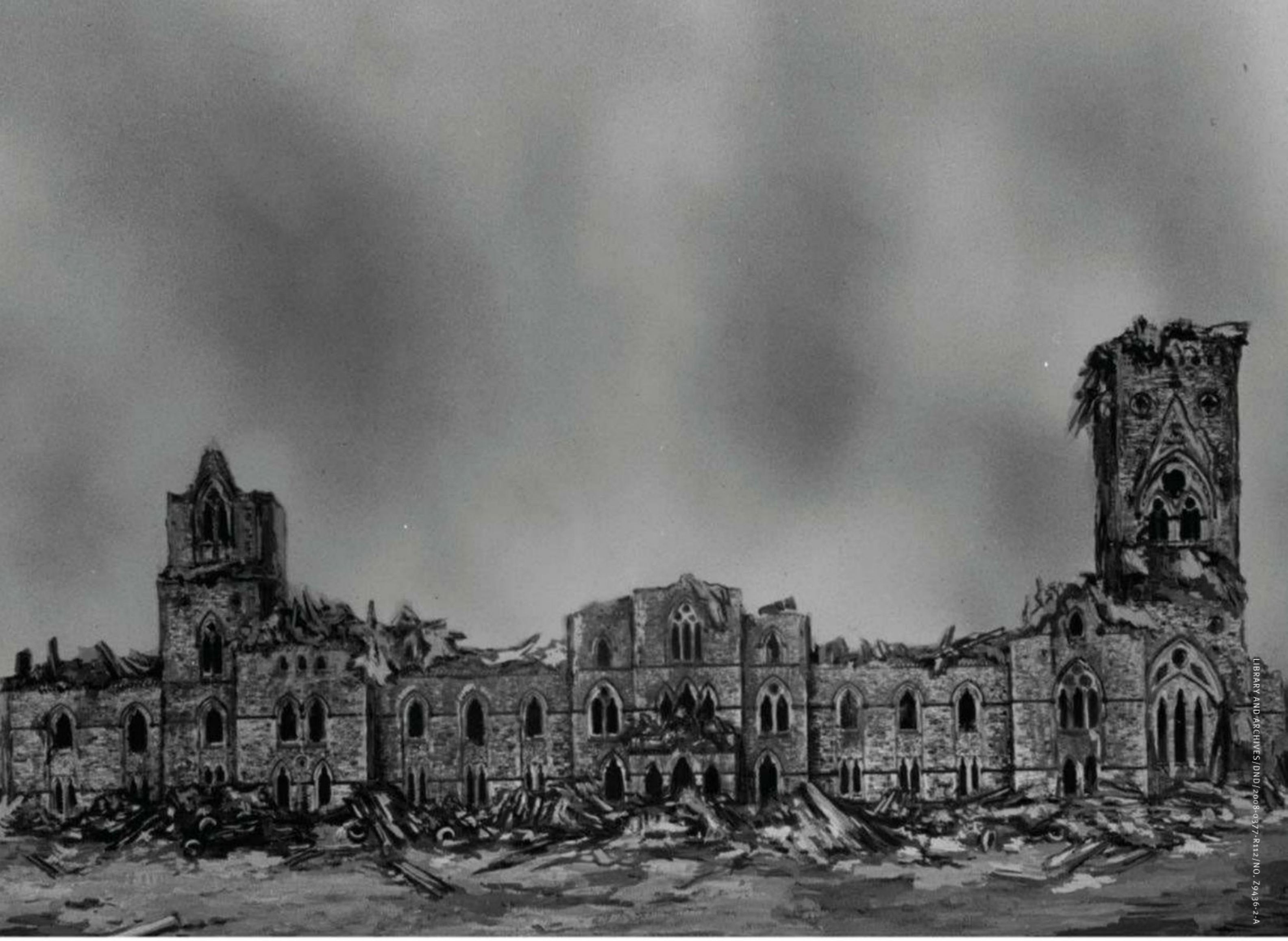
CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES YORK UNIVERSITY

IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT THE FALLOUT SHELTER BECAME ONE OF THE LASTING ICONS OF THE COLD WAR.

that a shelter could be built with five hundred dollars worth of cinder blocks, sand, and timber. But unless homeowners had sufficient skill to build the shelter themselves, construction contractors would add considerably to the overall cost.

Recognizing that many families did not have money to spare, Diefenbaker promised that the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation could provide loans under generous terms to prospective shelter builders. But those who tried, such as Arthur DeBrincat in Burnaby, British Columbia, were often denied shelter loans because they had healthy savings accounts. Frustrated after going through months of red tape, DeBrincat wrote the prime minister, "Considering the present threatening situation, how long must we wait for help?" In its investigation of shelters, the CBC program *Close-Up* found that the CMHC had only extended two shelter loans to Canadians by early 1961.

Pat McNenly, a reporter for the *Toronto Star*, revealed some other nasty surprises waiting for shelter enthusiasts. His basement shelter, built to specifications approved by the EMO, was nonetheless condemned by a municipal building inspector. Those shelters that did pass inspection ended up being assessed as a home improvement, leading to property tax increases. Over time, the cost of the shelter would amount to many times more than the price paid for its construction. Federal government and public pressure managed to dissuade a handful of city councils from taxing shelters, but most continued to collect.



LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES/DND/2008-0377-R112/NO. Z9436-2-A

Above: An imagined view of Canada's Parliament destroyed by an atomic bomb, 1952.

Opposite page: Workers in Fukushima, Japan, screen an evacuee for radiation after a nuclear power plant meltdown in March 2011.

Constructing a family fallout shelter was simply not an option for renters. While sixty-six per cent of Canadians were considered homeowners in 1961, a substantial segment of the population lived in rented accommodation. These Canadians had no property on which to build shelters. EMO officials somewhat lamely replied to complaints from renters that they should ask their landlords to build shelters in apartment building basements.

But the government set a poor example when it refused to pay to build fallout shelters for the eighty thousand dependents of military personnel who lived in permanent married quarters owned by the Department of National Defence. The government was further embarrassed when retired civil defence officials blasted the policy in the media.

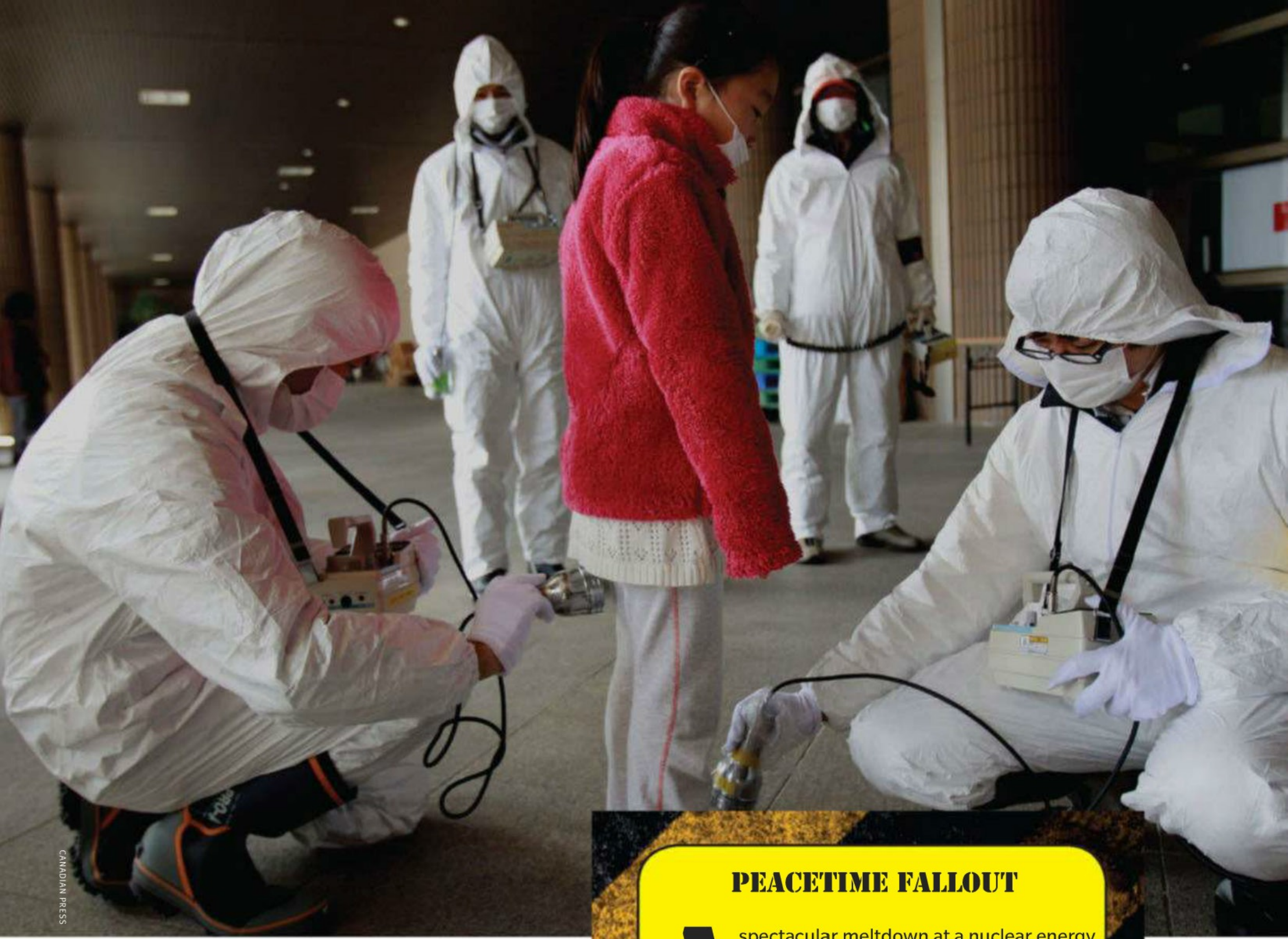
In a letter to Diefenbaker, a survivor of Second World War bombing raids lamented that the government's strategy amounted to "survival of the richest."

Even as the federal government encouraged homeowners to build shelters at their own expense, the defence construction industry was hard at work building massive blast bunkers meant to ensure the survival of the prime minister, the Cabinet, and key government officials. Arthur Brimmel, a *Toronto Telegram* reporter, broke the story to the public in September 1961 with his discovery of a large bunker under construction in Carp, Ontario. He dubbed the underground complex the "Diefenbunker." The four-storey building featured a suite for the prime minister, as well as a CBC Radio studio and a Bank of Canada vault.

Public anger at the government's seemingly hypocritical policy was palpable. One couple in Vancouver, "casualties" of the Tocsin exercise, wrote to Diefenbaker to express their sincere hopes that "neither you nor any civil servants with access to government shelters will be found dead, trampled in the rush to the entrance to the shelters, when those who got there first emerge in two weeks to mourn and bury the rest of us."

Diefenbaker, deeply embarrassed by the coverage, never set foot in the Carp bunker. Instead, Diefenbaker paid to have a basic family fallout shelter installed at the prime minister's residence in Ottawa. During the Tocsin exercise, John and Olive Diefenbaker chose to huddle in this shelter, where they "died" in the first wave of the Soviet attack.

At the root of the fallout shelter program's failure


CANADIAN PRESS

was the fact that the Canadian public did not believe that basement shelters offered any guarantee of survival. For years, fictional accounts of nuclear war depicted a hopeless post-attack environment. Nevil Shute's bestselling book and the 1959 film adaptation *On the Beach* showed the Australian government dispensing suicide pills to its citizenry as the outside world died off from radiation poisoning.

Reviewing the fallout shelter booklets, many families asked what sort of Canada they would find once they emerged from their shelters. Physicians and disarmament activists pointed out that the food and water supply would be contaminated for years.

Canadian emergency planners could not provide a convincing response to the manifold criticisms of their shelter policy. With so few shelters actually built, EMO head R.B. Curry glumly concluded that if the public had not been moved to build by years of near misses in the superpower conflict they would never be persuaded.

The Canadian government's instructions to survive nuclear war were clear: Have a shelter, have a plan. Yet few did.

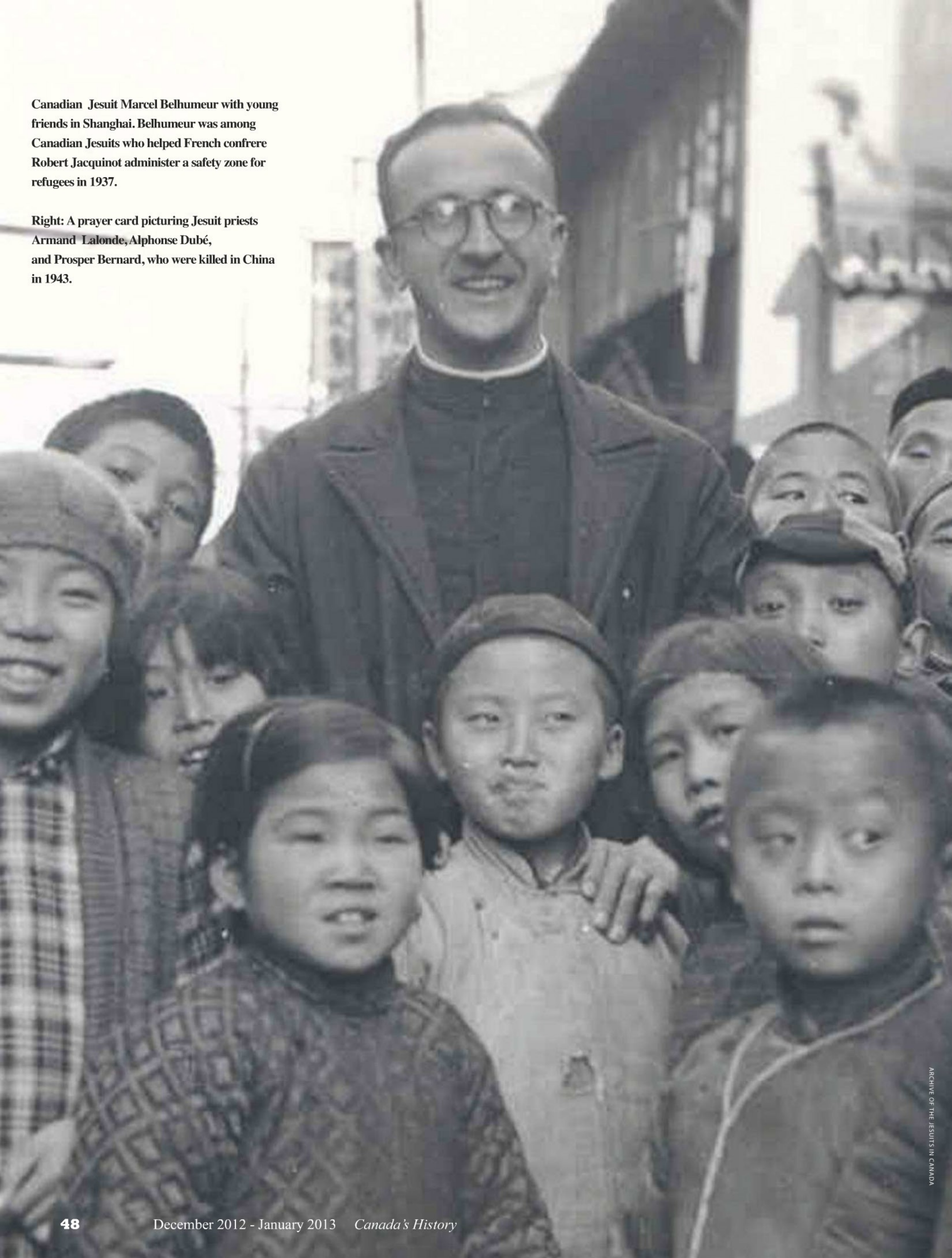
PEACETIME FALLOUT

A spectacular meltdown at a nuclear energy plant following the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan stands out as the most recent radiation fallout scare.

The world watched helplessly as the Fukushima nuclear plant spewed large amounts of radiation into the atmosphere. Japanese authorities evacuated about one hundred thousand people away from the areas of greatest danger, while in North America media outlets charted the probable path of the irradiated particles across the Pacific Ocean.

At the height of the scare, people worldwide bought up stocks of potassium iodide pills, hoping to block the body's absorption of radioactive isotopes. This prompted health authorities in Canada and elsewhere to warn the public not to self-medicate, since taking potassium iodide can have serious side effects.

Meanwhile, a U.S. Geological Survey report released in February 2012 said the amount of radioactive fallout that actually reached North America from Japan was minimal and well below being a public health concern. The Fukushima event is considered the world's second-most-serious nuclear accident after the Chernobyl disaster of 1986.



Canadian Jesuit Marcel Belhumeur with young friends in Shanghai. Belhumeur was among Canadian Jesuits who helped French confrere Robert Jacquinot administer a safety zone for refugees in 1937.

Right: A prayer card picturing Jesuit priests Armand Lalonde, Alphonse Dubé, and Prosper Bernard, who were killed in China in 1943.

ARCHIVE OF THE JESUITS IN CANADA

Missionary Martyrs

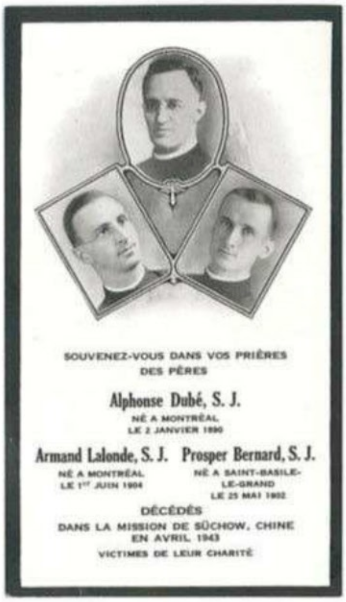
The little-known story of three Canadian Jesuits who died protecting Chinese civilians from their Japanese occupiers. by John Meehan

The people of Fengxian could hardly believe the news. After months of veiled threats, their Japanese occupiers had done the unthinkable. Three Canadian Jesuit fathers lay dead, executed on March 18, 1943, on the orders of the *guwen*, the local Japanese overlord. Who would now protect the people of this northern Chinese town?

More shocking still were reports by many of a fiery cross that appeared mysteriously in the sky at the moment of their death, as if to signal that the priests had indeed died as martyrs.

The message of the killings was clear. Japan would no longer tolerate Jesuit missionaries in Xuzhou district. Nor would they respect the safety zones the priests had created to protect thousands of Chinese civilians. Long suspicious of the foreigners, the *guwen* had arrested the Jesuits on charges of organizing an anti-Japanese gathering. In fact, they had held a meeting with their benefactors to discuss how to support their mission school now deprived of funds from Canada.

Their murder marked a clear shift in policy. Within months, all Jesuits in the Xuzhou district had been sent to Shanghai, where they spent the rest of the war interned at the Jesuit mission of Zikawei.



SOUVENEZ-VOUS DANS VOS PRIÈRES
DES PÈRES

Alphonse Dubé, S. J.
NÉ A MONTRÉAL
LE 2 JANVIER 1890

Armand Lalonde, S. J.
NÉ A MONTRÉAL
LE 1er JUIN 1904

Prosper Bernard, S. J.
NÉ A SAINT-BASILE-LE-GRAND
LE 25 MAI 1902

DÉCÉDÉS
DANS LA MISSION DE SÜCHOW, CHINE
EN AVRIL 1943
VICTIMES DE LEUR CHARITÉ

ARCHIVE OF THE JESUITS IN CANADA

Today, nearly seventy years later, the killing of Alphonse Dubé, Prosper Bernard, and Armand Lalonde is seen by many as a martyrdom. Among their families and the Chinese faithful, a movement is afoot for their beatification. Yet their heroic example remains largely unknown to Canadians, who pride themselves on their country's record of humanitarianism and development assistance.

Long before Canadians helped set up the Colombo Plan in 1950 or established the Canadian International Development Agency in 1968, nearly a hundred Jesuits from French Canada served in Xuzhou, located about halfway between Shanghai and Beijing. Working under harsh conditions, they built hospitals, schools, dispensaries, and colleges, while helping the destitute in times of famine, civil unrest, and invasion.

As vital non-state actors in their own right, they mirrored the commitment of hundreds of Canadian missionaries, whose humanitarian work anticipated that of more recent NGOs. Their legacy indicates that Canada's role in such assistance has a rich and often overlooked history.

The Canadian Jesuit presence in China began in 1918 when Édouard Goulet and Paul Gagnon arrived to assist French confreres facing wartime personnel shortages in Xuzhou, a diocese of some fifty thousand people. Two or three Jesuits followed annually until 1931, when French-Canadian Jesuits assumed direction of the Xuzhou mission, sending up to twelve people per year over the next seventeen years.

The Jesuits' humanitarian work in Xuzhou took many forms. They ran hospitals and clinics as well as primary schools, a technical college, and a university preparatory school. Of these, they took particular pride in Xinxin College

ARCHIVE OF THE JESUITS IN CANADA

Above: During Sino-Japanese hostilities, Canadian Jesuits used trucks such as this one to rescue refugees from war zones.

Right: French Jesuit priest Robert Jacquinot in Shanghai. Canadian Jesuits modelled their safety zones after one Jacquionet set up in Shanghai, saving the lives of many refugees.

(Collège Saint-Louis-de-Gonzague), widely considered one of the best schools in Xuzhou with its modern library, science labs, and professionally trained teachers.

To educate girls, the Jesuits enlisted the help of locally recruited Presentandine nuns and arranged in 1934 for the Soeurs Missionnaires de l'Immaculée-Conception to come from Quebec.

With the outbreak of Sino-Japanese hostilities in 1937, humanitarian work became dangerous. And the status of the French-Canadian Jesuit missionaries was unclear. As Canadians, they were under British protection, since their home country lacked a diplomatic presence in China until Ottawa opened a legation at Chongqing in 1943. As Catholics, however, they fell within France's protectorate over "all Christians" in China, as outlined in the Treaty of Tianjin — a treaty drawn up in 1858 but increasingly disputed.

After Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, Britain and the United States — Canada's closest allies — became enemies of Japan while Vichy France was a friend and the Vatican remained neutral. To add to the confusion, the French-Canadian priests were often mistaken for French nationals.

When Shanghai fell to Japanese forces in the fall of 1937, Canadian Jesuit Maurice Belhumeur and others studying at Zikawei assisted French confrere Robert Jacquinot in setting up and administering an international safety zone. Through tact, diplomacy, and sheer force of character, Jacquinot negotiated an area of two square kilometers in Nantao, an area just south of Shanghai's International Settlement. Japanese and Chinese forces agreed to stay out of this area and keep it free of bombardment.

Refugees soon flooded into the "Jacquinot zone." During temporary ceasefires, Belhumeur joined Jacquinot and others in missions to rescue women and children from areas of hostilities. By the time of its closure in 1940, the Shanghai safety zone had saved an estimated 250,000 civilians.

For his humanitarian efforts, Jacquinot was awarded the Legion of Honour by France in early 1938 and was received shortly thereafter by American President Franklin Roosevelt at the White House. His safety zone, later cited in the commentary to the Geneva Conventions, inspired similar initiatives elsewhere in China, including in Xuzhou.

In May 1938, the bishop at Xuzhou, Philippe Côté, a Canadian Jesuit, organized a local relief committee made up of Catholic and Protestant missionaries. It oversaw the distribution of medical and food aid to refugees from Japanese-occupied areas. Several of Côté's confreres — including Louis-Joseph Primeau, Alphonse Boileau, and Alphonse Dubé — set up safety zones, housing up to ten thousand refugees in mission compounds and ruined temples.

Though some had organized peacetime relief during famines and floods, they hardly anticipated the challenges of wartime humanitarian work. The missionaries sometimes witnessed appalling scenes of plunder and rape just outside their zones. "Faced with such misery," Dube´ reflected after setting up his safety zone, "I can only declare my helplessness. … My situation is delicate and does not allow me to do all that my heart tells me."

The missionaries faced huge difficulties. They were often separated from each other as well as from funding sources in Canada because the Japanese occupiers controlled supply lines and communications. Like Jacquinot at Shanghai, some became de facto administrators of small towns. To his own surprise, Father Dubé found himself "practically sub-prefect" of Fengxian, deciding life or death matters involving women, children, and other non-combatants.

Unlike Jacquinot, however, the Jesuits in Xuzhou did not have access to diplomats or a foreign press, making their work subject to arbitrary Japanese interference. In many cases, they were the only Westerners in the area, thus adding to the desperation with which Chinese civilians regarded them. Refugees flocked to them for baptism, hoping this might secure protection in a safety zone. At Fengxian, locals addressed Dubé as *pusa* — meaning bodhisattva or saint — bowing toward him out of admiration that he helped all regardless of religious belief.

The Canadian Jesuit missionaries were themselves certainly not immune to danger. This was made evident in 1939, when three Canadian priests were fired upon by Japanese forces and fifty-three more were interned at Shanghai. By 1943, the Japanese had lost patience — they suspected that the safety zones were harbouring combatants in civilian clothes.

When Japanese officials advised Dubé to give up his futile task, the Jesuit retorted, "How could I leave when I have more than three hundred people who have only me to protect them?" Dubé, Bernard, and Lalonde met their executioners knowing that they and their confreres saved thousands of Chinese civilians from virtually certain hunger, torture, rape, and death.

After 1945, the French-Canadian Jesuits returned to Xuzhou only to become enmeshed in China's bitter civil war, which further impeded their work. By 1955, the last of their number had left China due to ongoing persecution by Mao Zedong's Communist regime.

Back home, the work of the Jesuit missionaries made a huge impact on Canadian attitudes toward Asia and development. French Canadians in particular embraced internationalism as they became familiar with Asia — most of the nearly four hundred and fifty Canadian Catholic missionaries in China were French Canadian.

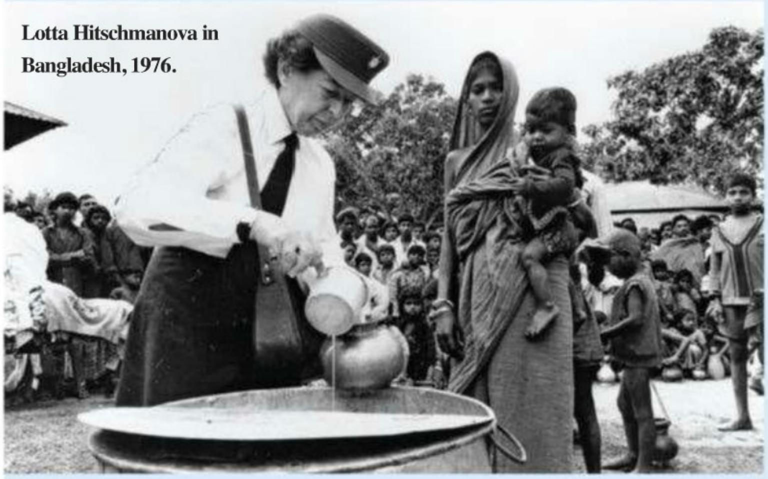
During the interwar period, French Canadians learned of Asia through letters from relatives in the field as well as missionary reports published or broadcast on radio. Others attended films and lectures organized by the Académie des missions, the Jeunesse Étudiante Catholique, and Ligue Missionnaires des Etudiantes, a Jesuit-sponsored student network of almost eight hundred groups across Quebec.

Still others learned of China at the Musée chinois, set up in Montreal in 1931, and at events known as semaines missionnaires, where religious orders had kiosks displaying their overseas work. First held at Joliette in 1927 and later at Montreal, Trois-Rivieres, and Sherbrooke, these expositions featured objects and information from places as diverse as Xuzhou, Madagascar, Java, and southern Africa's Basutoland (renamed Lesotho after independence in 1966).

ARCHIVE OF THE JESUITS IN CANADA

More commonly, French Canadians learned about China through the St. Enfance (Holy Childhood) movement, a popular fundraising effort that involved almost every Catholic school in Quebec in the 1930s. For a mere ten cents a year, subscribers received *Le messager*, which detailed the work of Jesuits and other missionaries among China's most needy.

When the last Canadian Jesuits left China in 1955, a chapter in their nation's overseas humanitarian work came to an end. But the passion that guided Dubé, Bernard, Lalonde, and others outlived their deaths, inspiring other Canadians to build on their legacy. They too would leave the security of home to help where they were needed most.



Lotta Hitschmanova in Bangladesh, 1976.

JOHN BUSS USC CANADA

Saving the world

Canadian missionaries and volunteers have a long history of helping people in faraway countries.

Since the middle of the nineteenth century, Canadians have been venturing abroad to offer their help. Often they have been missionaries whose religious message was wrapped in material aid in the form of hospitals and schools.

Baptists in the Maritimes were among the first to send missionaries overseas. In 1845, Richard Burpee and his wife Laleah travelled to Burma, where they ministered to the Karen people. Although they won few converts, suffered ill health, and had to move to India the following year, the Burpees inspired hundreds of Maritime Baptist missionaries to follow their example. Among these were the "serving seven," who in 1875 started a mission in Kakinada, India, that continues to this day.

By the end of the nineteenth century, almost all Protestant churches in Canada supported missions overseas. Among Catholic orders, Mère Marie Saint-André was the first Canadian-born nun to run a mission overseas. She left for India as a young women in 1869 and never came back, spending forty-five years of her life in mission service abroad.

As the twentieth century dawned, many churches started to emphasize the social gospel — applying Christian ethics to social problems such as poverty and injustice. Dr. Robert McClure, perhaps Canada's most famous medical missionary, served all over the world. McClure was an outstanding surgeon who dodged bullets in China, lobbied for family planning in India, and worked side-by-side with witch doctors in Borneo on tetanus-prevention programs. He lived to be ninety-one.

Cardinal Paul-Émile Léger also championed humanitarian work, resigning his post as archbishop of Montreal in 1968 to work with lepers and handicapped children in Cameroon.

After the Second World War, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as we know them today began to emerge. Of these, the Canadian branch of the Unitarian Service Committee became especially prominent for the radio and television broadcasts of its founder, Lotta Hitschmanova. A Czech-born refugee whose parents died in the Holocaust, "Dr. Lotta" was a trained journalist with a Ph.D. whose skillful messages inspired generations of Canadians to give generously to humanitarian causes abroad.

"Charity begins at home," she would say. "And then it goes on to embrace next door neighbours and all those who need help. So start by caring for those near you and then give a thought, and if you can a dollar, to the children far away, who have no hope without your help."

— **Nelle Oosterom**

A Family Herald Christmas

Many of Canada's yuletide traditions can be traced back to an influential Montreal weekly. *by David Goss*

Good Christmas, whom our children love,
We love you too! Lift us above
Our cares, our fears, our small desires!
Open our hands and stir the fires
Of helpful fellowship within us,
And back to love and kindness win us.

This poetic sentiment was written by Edward Sanford Martin and appeared in the *Family Herald* on December 22, 1915. It is representative of the Christmas sentiment of the widely circulated weekly paper. There is probably no Canadian publication that did more to establish uniformity in this country's Christmas celebrations.

Family Herald
Canada's National Farm Magazine
FOR XMAS DAY IN THE MORNING.
A Century of Christmas Cards

The *Family Herald* was one of the most popular magazines ever published in Canada. Founded as the *Family Herald and Weekly Star* in 1869 by Hugh Graham, publisher of the *Montreal Star*, it billed itself as a farm publication but it appealed to urban and rural readers alike. It had something for everyone — news about world events, tips for housewives, "clean and wholesome" stories and sketches, travel and adventure sections, children's pages, question-and-answer columns, and a comic strip called *Juniper Junction*.

With a paid circulation of 400,000 at its peak, the *Herald* had a huge influence on Canadians and was probably the single most important source of information about how to celebrate holidays such as Christmas. Throughout December, entire sections were devoted to preparations for a joyous yuletide. There were food tips, entertaining ideas, how-to articles on decorating and gift-giving, poems and prose from the world's best authors, sheet music to play, games to try, and images of Santa, who, at the time, was still a seldom seen and mysterious personage.

When the *Herald* published something about Christmas, families from Cape Breton to Vancouver Island and all places in between would enjoy the same story, make the same crafts, play "Jingle Bells" as it was notated, follow the same recipes for fruitcake, and see the same image of Santa.

Christmas was especially prominent in the *Herald* between 1890 and 1920; there was really no other widely circulated Canadian source of Christmas information. While many Canadian children received *St. Nicholas* magazine and other American publications, the chances were slim of seeing Canadian authors or illustrators in the U.S. publications. In contrast, the *Herald* regularly ran contests that encouraged written and illustrated submissions from young Canadians. Over the years, many Canadian and international authors and illustrators had work published in the *Herald* — including Nellie McClung, Lucy Maud Montgomery, and Robert Louis Stevenson.

Today, kids might gather around the living room during the Christmas holidays to play a newly acquired video game, but a century or more ago they would turn to the *Family Herald* to learn about parlour games. For instance, the December 21, 1915, issue described a variation of a popular Victorian pastime called Hunt the Slipper: "The players sit down on the ground in a circle and get an old slipper or shoe. One of the players kneels in the middle of the circle. Then the slipper is passed from one to the other and the one in the middle has to find it. Every time the players get a chance to hit him with the shoe, they do so."

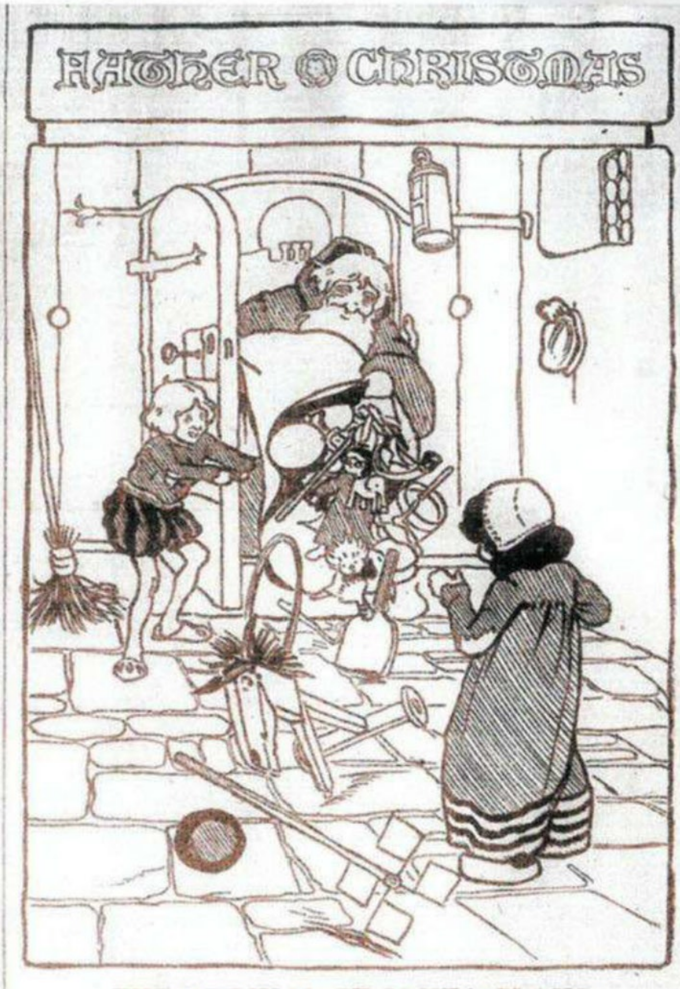
If the kids got a bit carried away, mother might suggest a puzzle such as the "Christmas fortune chart" that she had cut and saved from a past issue of the *Herald*. In this case, the challenge presented by the amazingly complex drawing was to select a number and follow a criss-cross serpentine pathway, which, if done successfully, would predict the child's future.

Perhaps a poem would be read. A typical Christmas-themed issue contained several poems, some religious, some whimsical. They included well-known works, like Clement Clarke Moore's "A Visit from St Nicholas," (a.k.a. "The Night Before Christmas"), which appeared regularly, and more obscure ones, like "The Mistletoe Bough" — the sad tale of a lively Christmas Day game of hide-and-seek that goes horribly wrong after a young bride suffocates to death in a chest: "And a skeleton form lay mouldering there, in the bridal wreath of that lady fair." "The Mistletoe Bough" is rarely heard today.

Readers learned about decorating with readily available materials. Illustrations showed mother and child busy bedecking the home with greenery, children hanging stockings by the fireplace, and families encircling candlelit trees adorned with easily made cornucopias, stars, and garlands.

References to Christmas dinner show up as early as 1875, when the *Herald* carried a message from the Montreal Protestant House of Industry and Refuge, thanking "kind friends" for a yule feast of "roast beef, turkeys, geese, plum pudding and etc." In the years that followed, the paper's Christmas recipes became very popular. Menus from around the world were published, with the Labrador Inuit's seasonal delicacy of turnips compared with the lavish meal prepared by Chef Oscar of the Waldorf Astoria in New York.

Children wrote submissions for the periodical's Maple Leaf Club. Top prize for the best Christmas story of 1900 went to Guy Hetherington of Souris, Manitoba, who told of enjoying his Christmas present, a copy of *The Last of the Mohicans*, and wrote a fictional tale of offering most of the family's Christmas goodies to two visiting Native people.



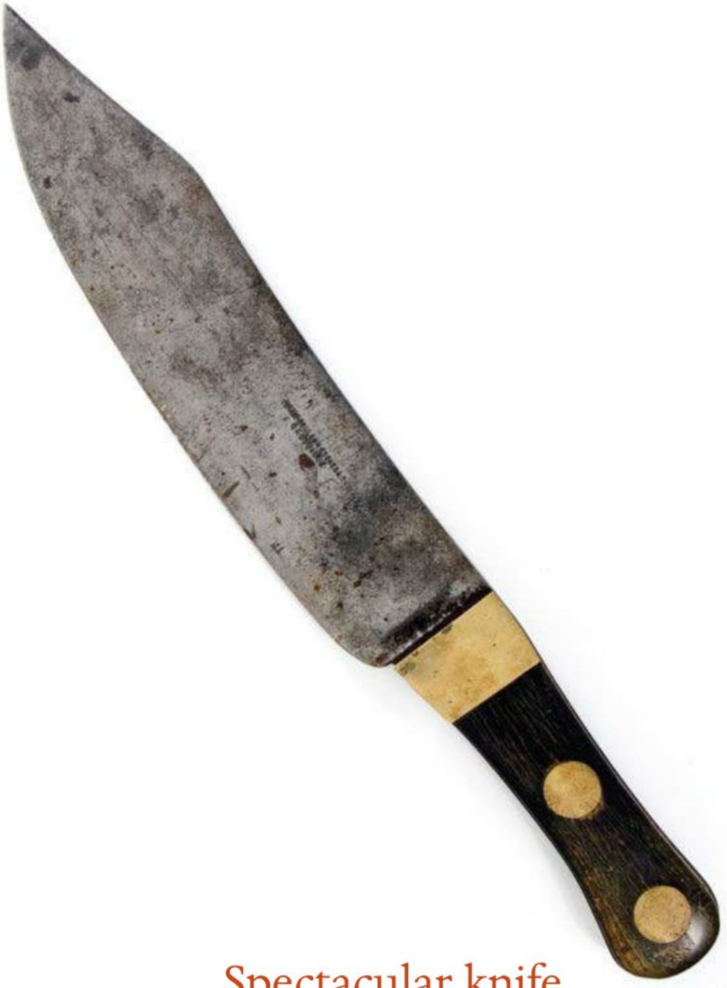
THE ARRIVAL OF SANTA CLAUS.

The *Family Herald* was remarkably successful. In 1900, the company erected a seven-storey office at 165–169 St. James Street in Montreal, boasting that there was "no finer newspaper building on the American Continent or Europe." But like many print publications, it lost readers with the advent of radio and television.

Though it was still popular, the *Family Herald* suddenly ceased publication in September 1968, just short of its one hundredth birthday. But the ideas of Christmas it promoted are still very much alive and enjoyed to this day.

TALES AND TREASURES

From the rich legacy of the Hudson's Bay Company



Spectacular knife

This Hudson's Bay Company trade item was popular with hunters of western Canada during the last half of the nineteenth century. Often called a buffalo knife or chief's knife, it was described as "extremely heavy … a sort of butcher's cleaver with a point instead of squared-off end." This well-designed specimen, made by Jukes Coulson, Stokes & Co. Ltd. of London, England, was found to be equally versatile as a light hatchet, cleaver, skinning knife, or deadly weapon.

— Beverley Tallon and Ryan Kessler

In The Beaver… 90 Years Ago

Santa travels by dogsled

Santa Claus made a most interesting appearance in Edmonton — even for him. The January 1923 issue features the story of Santa's arrival by dogsled at the HBC retail store. Santa headlined a Christmas parade that also included mounted police, clowns, and others. So many families came to see Santa that the meet-and-greet at the toy store had to be cancelled, as there wasn't enough room for all of his fans.

60 Years Ago

First flight

Fascinating images of early airplanes adorned the pages of a March 1953 article by Frank H. Ellis. "Flash-in-the-Sky Boy" is about William Gibson, who designed the first Canadian-made aircraft engine. The Scottish immigrant made his first plane in 1910. It travelled sixty-one metres, a long flight for its time. After crashing his second experiment in 1911, he retired from flying for his own safety and returned to working in the mines.

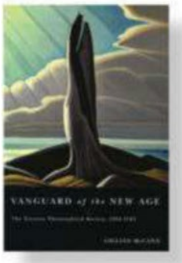
30 Years Ago

Wilderness painting

In 1983, artist Don Cardinal lived like it was 1883. Lanny Cooke's article "Don Cardinal: Bush Painter of the North" tells the story of how Cardinal moved to the Northwest Territories and lived in a log cabin with no plumbing or electricity. Cardinal made the move in order to "live the life" he painted. His subjects were the things in his environment, including sled dogs, wildlife, and Inuit elders. Examples of his work are included with the article.

The Beaver magazine was originally founded as a Hudson's Bay Company publication in 1920. To read stories from past issues, go to: **CanadasHistory.ca/tradingpost**.
To explore the history of the Hudson's Bay Company go to: **hbcom/hbc/history**.

MUSEUM OF THE FUR TRADE, CHADRON, NEBRASKA



SOUL SEARCHING

Vanguard of the New Age: The Toronto Theosophical Society, 1891–1945
by Gillian McCann
McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, 2012
240 pp., $34.95 hardcover

Toronto has lots going on these days: theatre, music, restaurants, festivals. It's the poster city for Canadian diversity. If all that isn't enough to shake its "Toronto the good" reputation, then Gillian McCann gives us one more reason to revise any lingering assumptions with her careful history of the Toronto Theosophical Society (TTS).

The indomitable Helena Petrovna Blavatsky — Russian noblewoman, religious seeker, world traveller, and one-time spiritualist medium — brought theosophy to American shores in the 1870s. A chance meeting between one of her followers and a new Canadian immigrant, Albert Smythe, expanded the movement to Toronto.

Just what theosophy is remains hard to define. Blavatsky described it as an "archaic Wisdom-Religion" and "the esoteric doctrine once known in every ancient country having claims to civilization." Drawing on Hinduism, Western "occultism," and burgeoning enlightenment science, theosophists believed invisible seers had taught them eternal truths about the interaction between spirit and matter. Their complicated world view centred on evolutionary cycles of reincarnation said to lead all beings to return to the universal oversoul.

McCann never fully unpacks theosophist beliefs per se. What are clearly of central interest to her — and consequently what this book is about — are the movement's political, social, and cultural implications. McCann weaves together the stories of the TTS's intellectual elite, including feminist Flora MacDonald Denison, artists Lawren Harris and Arthur Lismer, as well as politicians and thinkers. She shows how theosophy opened up to new ways of conceiving the world beyond the "goose-steppers … in religion, medicine, society, state or what you will," as Harris put it.

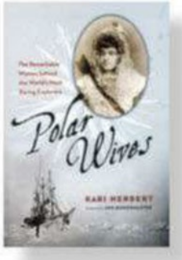
Theosophy led adherents in often radical directions: accepting interracial marriage, advocating a utopian socialist ideal, experimenting with the first "Hindoo" cremations, or bringing (in)famous anarchist Emma Goldman to Canada. While McCann clearly admires these commitments, she does not shy away from TTS hypocrisy. Its members were almost exclusively of the Anglo social elite who fetishized "oriental" and Indian culture but distanced themselves from actual Indian immigrants and the racist implications of Canadian policies or British imperialism. They guarded their own social position, often unthinkingly, even while advocating radical equality. They brought Hindu concepts to North America yet moulded them to suit Protestant proclivities.

More broadly, McCann describes the TTS as a microcosm of the "classic Canadian triangle": Theosophy was an import from the U.S. with a strong British (and later international) component. As the English and American branches of the society vied for control, the Toronto chapter, under Smythe's long-term leadership, worked to forge a separate Canadian identity — an early example, according to McCann, of the tightrope Canada learned to walk as the twentieth century progressed.

This book is fundamentally about the advent of this social and political "New Age," but one gets the sense that McCann did mean for the title to encompass the advent of post-1960s spiritual quests. She ends by comparing TTS members to today's New Age adherents, "with their cyber shamans and power yoga," whom she dismisses as apolitical and individualistic. For my taste, this quick conclusion sounds uncomfortably like the comment she recalls one of her professors making about theosophy itself: "Why would you want to do research on a bunch of Rosedale matrons dabbling in exotica?" The implications regarding gender of these sorts of conclusions, especially when it comes to religions outside the "norm," still need our careful attention.

This bee in my bonnet aside, *Vanguard of the New Age* is an engaging read about the formation of radical social and political circles in turn-of-the-century Toronto, as well as how Anglo-Canadian intellectuals formed international links and engaged in incipient nation building. Kudos to McCann for unearthing a forgotten piece of Canadian history that enlivens our understanding of our country's diverse intellectual foundations.

Reviewed by **Hillary Kaell**, an assistant professor of religion at Concordia University. Her first book, *Where Jesus Walked: Contemporary American Holy Land Pilgrimage*, is under contract with New York University Press.



ARCTIC CONQUESTS

Polar Wives: The Remarkable Women behind the World's Most Daring Explorers
by Kari Herbert
Greystone Books, Vancouver, 2012
362 pp., illus., $22.95 paperback

"Daring explorers" have no lack of admirers, it seems, but would you really want to marry one? The premise of Kari Herbert's *Polar Wives* is that signing on as the helpmate of a dashing Arctic adventurer made for a life of tough sledding. And not because wives accompanied their polar paramours into the ice fields — they usually didn't — but because it took a special kind of woman to endure the multi-year absences of ambitious mates driven by dreams of conquest.

Indeed, polar heroes tended to fall for women who were as strong-willed as themselves, women who were accomplished in their own right, influential women who sometimes made their husbands' obsessions their own.

Of the seven members of the "polar wives club" described in this book, none had more impact on the course of history than Jane Franklin. A forceful, well-connected woman, she persuaded numerous power brokers to fund multiple searches over a number of years in hopes of finding what remained of Sir John Franklin's lost 1845 expedition to discover the Northwest Passage. (Indeed, the effort continues to the present day as the Canadian government funds its well-publicized quests for the remains of the ships the *Erebus* and the *Terror*.)

Yet, when her husband was still alive Lady Jane was far from the picture of a long-suffering, loyal mate. After marrying Franklin, she quickly tired of the task of looking after her stepchild, Ella (the daughter of John Franklin's first wife, Eleanor, a famous poet who died in 1825). With her husband in the Mediterranean serving with the Royal Navy, Jane left Ella with an aunt and went on a three-year adventure tour of North Africa and the Middle East. At one point she kept company with a gallant younger man, with whom she was loath to part.

These are the kind of stories that make this book fun to read. Yet while the author describes her subjects' human frailties, there's no overtone of judgment. Yes, Jo Peary is horrified when she has to share ship's quarters with her husband Robert's Inuit mistress and child. Awkward. But those polar nights are long.

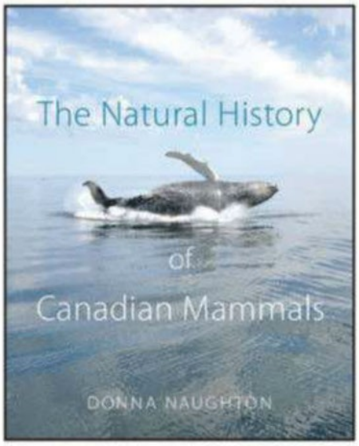
The author was in a unique position to write this book, since she is the daughter of the late British polar explorer Wally Herbert. Her mother, author Marie Herbert, is the most contemporary of the polar wives — Marie accompanied her husband on some of his journeys in the 1970s and today teaches wilderness rites of passage.

The only challenge in reading this book is its unusual structure: Rather than moving from one complete bio to the next, the subjects get picked up, dropped, and then revisited again under four subject headings — and not necessarily in chronological order. This gets confusing. *Polar Wives* is otherwise well written.

Reviewed by **Nelle Oosterom**, Senior Editor of *Canada's History* magazine.

The Natural History of Canadian Mammals

by Donna Naughton



This beautifully illustrated, up-to-date guide is full of fascinating facts about all 215 known species of Canadian mammals — from polar bears to killer whales. With exquisite drawings and stunning photographs, *The Natural History of Canadian Mammals* is a perfect companion for students, animal lovers, and anyone wishing to gain a greater appreciation of Canada's natural wonders.

'This outstanding book will be the reference of first choice on mammals in Canada for many years to come.' - Dr Ian Stirling, *University of Alberta*

9781442644830 | $69.95

Co-published with the Canadian Museum of Nature

canadian museum of nature
nature
musée canadien de la nature

Canada

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS
Advancing Knowledge

utppublishing.com

More Books

The War of 1812:
Conflict for a Continent
by J.C.A. Stagg
Cambridge University Press,
New York, 2012
216 pp., $24.95 paperback

Four Wars of 1812
by D. Peter Macleod
Douglas & McIntyre,
Vancouver, 2012
96 pp., illus., $19.95 paperback

The rush to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the War of 1812 is bringing a concomitant rush to publish even more books on the subject. With so many excellent popular and scholarly works still in print, new books need something distinctive to recommend them. Fortunately, both of these titles have that.

J.C.A. Stagg's *The War of 1812* is a straightforward survey of events before, during, and after the conflict. Solid research and clear writing combine to create a helpful overview that's perhaps most noteworthy for Stagg's insights into the mindset and methods of wartime U.S. President James Madison, the subject of much of the author's previous academic work.

Nearly one third of the book is given over to chapters titled "War" and "Peace" (the others cover one year of the war at a time), which allows Stagg to spend more time exploring areas that are often quickly dispensed with in order to focus on battles and personalities.

Sparer, more populist, and more visually appealing is *Four Wars of 1812* by D. Peter Macleod, who curated the Canadian War Museum's exhibition 1812: One War, Four Perspectives. The book features photographs of artifacts highlighted in the exhibition together with brief explanatory texts on facing pages.

The story of the writing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," the bitter betrayal by Britain of its Aboriginal allies, and the ordeals undergone by Canadians living in the Niagara region are driven home through pictures of items as diverse as a contemporary painting, a medal bearing the likeness of King George III, and a book of sermons checked out of a library that would soon be burned to the ground.

It doesn't pretend to be comprehensive, but *Four Wars* offers an engaging window into the American, British, Canadian, and Native American views on the war, as well as a welcome change from the standard chronological narrative.

— **Nancy Payne**

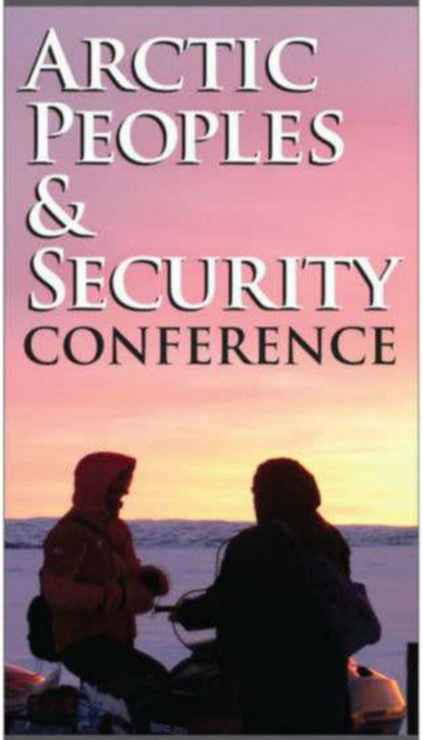
Mary Pickford: Canada's Silent Siren,
America's Sweetheart
by Peggy Dymond Leavey
Dundurn, Toronto, 2011
221 pp., illus., $19.99 paperback

Mary Pickford came to be known as America's sweetheart. By the age of twenty-four, she was a millionaire and the highest-paid woman in the world. She was also a savvy businessperson who co-founded United Artists in 1919.

Yet Pickford came from humble beginnings. Born in Toronto in 1892 as Gladys Louise Smith, her alcoholic father died when she was six years old. Her mother was left with three young children and took in boarders to help make ends meet. As luck would have it, one boarder was a theatre manager, and the entire Smith family went to work on the stage, travelling around the United States to perform live for very little money.

Mary Pickford: Canada's Silent Siren, America's Sweetheart is an entertaining read about a great entertainer. When Mary was seventeen, her mother encouraged her to work in the "moving pictures." Young Mary thought this was "beneath her dignity," but for the princely sum of five dollars a day she swallowed her pride and was hired and trained by the renowned D.W. Griffith at the Biograph Company.

Pickford's second marriage, to Douglas Fairbanks in 1920, made the couple "Hollywood royalty." They lived in their Beverley Hills mansion, Pickfair, while



ARCTIC PEOPLES & SECURITY CONFERENCE

JANUARY 29 & 30, 2013
Vivian and David Campbell
Conference Facility
Munk School of Global Affairs
University of Toronto

The 3rd annual **Munk-Gordon Arctic Security Conference** will explore various concepts of security in the Arctic. From the concerns of those who call the Arctic home to the implications of Arctic security for the whole country, this Conference invites emerging young leaders to redefine security for the 21st century.

MUNK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
Canada Centre for Global Security Studies
WALTER & DUNCAN GORDON FOUNDATION

REGISTER AT
GORDONFOUNDATION.CA

continuing their careers.

An astute student of human behaviour, Pickford used this skill in her theatre and movie performances — for which she won two Oscars — and later as a producer. Biographer Peggy Dymond Leavey gives further insight into Pickford's life and provides an useful chronology for diehard Pickford fans.

— Beverley Tallon

Happyland: A History of the "Dirty Thirties" in Saskatchewan, 1914–1937
by Curtis R. McManus
University of Calgary Press,
Calgary, 2011
336 pp., illus., $34.95 paperback

Like many early prairie settlements, Happyland, Saskatchewan, once had all the signs of a prosperous frontier town — a hotel, barber, post office, and the all-important pool hall. Today, however, Happyland represents the common fate of many prairie towns, where frontier dreams faded into dusty memories.

15
Minutes of Fun
Take 15 minutes a day to learn with your family.
#13 Play a new board game together.
Learning can happen at any time.
FamilyLiteracyDay.ca
ABC Life Literacy Canada
Family Literacy Day
27

In his latest book, *Happyland: A History of the "Dirty Thirties" in Saskatchewan, 1914–1937*, Curtis McManus examines the physical, economic, and political climate that caused many prairie settlers to finally board up their homes and head for greener pastures.

McManus takes readers back to the early twentieth century, when tens of thousands of Europeans, and even Americans, were streaming in to the great plains of Alberta and Saskatchewan during "the last great land rush of modern times." However, in 1914, the settler-farmers experienced the worst (but not the first) drought in their new homeland. The resulting crop failure and dire economic conditions forced provincial governments in both Alberta and Saskatchewan to design and implement relief programs.

The droughts happened again and again, and McManus identifies three main periods of drought (1914, 1917–1924, and 1929–1937) that contributed to the dirty thirties in Western Canada. While the droughts were certainly acts of nature, *Happyland* is a thorough and engaging look at the bad policies, misguided politicians, and poor practices that failed Canada's western pioneers.

— Joanna Dawson

The Pathfinder: A.C. Anderson's Journeys in the West
by Nancy Margeurite Anderson
Heritage House, Victoria, 2011
240 pp., illus., $19.95 paperback

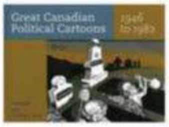
Those longing for stories about the Hudson's Bay Company's epic explorations will find that Nancy Margeurite Anderson delivers in *The Pathfinder*. The book traces the career of her great-grandfather as an HBC fur trader, cartographer, and explorer in the Pacific Northwest during the mid-1800s.

A.C. Anderson came from a genteel Scottish family and joined the HBC "forty years too late," discovering that under Governor George Simpson the culture of the company that once inspired him would mostly be a vexation. During his tenure, his travels ranged from Quebec to the Pacific coast, including time at Lachine House, Caledonia, Fort Nisqually, Fort Vancouver, and Fort Alexandria.

Anderson often found that his geographical knowledge and his abilities in establishing trading relationships with Native populations simply didn't outweigh his lack of social and political skills with co-workers and superiors. The latter would ultimately result in a career-ending oversight. A.C. Anderson nonetheless got his long-awaited adventure — helping to forge a new brigade trail along the Coquihalla River to the Fraser.

The Pathfinder is a rich, personal biography that draws from a wealth of primary sources, including A.C. Anderson's journals, and uses plenty of well-selected archival photos to provide context and imagery to the life and times of this British Columbia trailblazer.

— Deborah Morrison



Great Canadian Political Cartoons, 1946 to 1982
by Charles Hou and
Cynthia Hou
Moody's Lookout Press,
Vancouver, 2011
240 pp., illus.,
$39.95 paperback

Reading *Great Canadian Political Cartoons 1946 to 1982*, I don't know whether to laugh or weep. Remove the dates from the book's title, and these cartoons could be ripped from today's headlines.

Among my personal favourites: the 1969 cartoon depicting student radicals in Montreal tromping on a taxpayer who's left holding the bill from their days of rioting; a 1960 cartoon that shows an old jalopy carrying Canadian magazines that's being squeezed between two massive trucks overflowing with American titles; and a 1978 cartoon depicting a group of hockey players representing "Tories" and "Grits," "English" and "French," and "East" and "West." They're engaging in "Canada's National Sport," which, the cartoonist asserts, is punching each other's lights out.

This is Charles and Cynthia Hou's third collection of editorial cartoons, and it's a welcome addition to any Canadian's bookshelf.

— Mark Reid

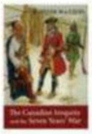
Committing Theatre: Theatre Radicalism and Political Intervention in Canada
by Alan Filewod
Between the Lines, Toronto, 2011
376 pp., illus., $29.95 paperback

Told from the perspective of someone who is both an academic and an active participant in politically motivated performance, *Committing Theatre* provides a historical overview of theatre radicalism in Canada and its role in political reform.

Author Alan Filewod examines the grassroots theatre movement from its nineteenth-century origins to recent developments and considers possibilities for future growth. A theatre historian at the University of Guelph and a co-founder of the Canadian Popular Theatre Alliance, Filewod writes with a generally academic tone as he incorporates first-hand accounts, scrupulous research, and insightful analysis.

Filewod's history ranges from individual actions to works undertaken by large casts that perform radical theatre on an impressive scale. At the heart of his book is a passionate appreciation for theatre's capabilities to rattle, inspire, and create change. As Filewod explains, "There is always something happening out there that we cannot see. In theatre that is where the radical plays."

— Katherine Dow



The Canadian Iroquois and the Seven Years' War
by D. Peter MacLeod
Canadian War Museum/Dundurn, Toronto, 2012
263 pp., illus., $29.99 paperback

On August 9, 1757, after a siege of less than a week, the British stronghold at Fort William Henry fell to the French. As officers from both forces met to decide the articles of capitulation, several hundred Canadian Iroquois warriors looked on with growing anger. What was this nonsense, they thought, of shaking hands with the enemy?

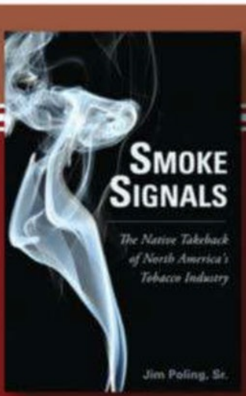
By day's end, the Iroquois had attacked the prisoners, killing, scalping, or kidnapping several hundred redcoats. The attacks horrified the French, but it was no isolated incident. History records many occasions during the Seven Years War where Amerindians attacked prisoners who had waved the white flag.

I've often wondered why this is. In *The Canadian Iroquois and the Seven Years' War*, historian D. Peter MacLeod offers a possible answer: It's because the Amerindians were fighting a "parallel war" with their French allies — each sharing the same enemy but having totally different concepts of victory.

For the French, war was a strategic exercise. Soldiers were expendable so long as a key fort or pinch point on a map was captured or held. For Amerindians, the point of war was to obtain materiel, prisoners, and scalps. Thus, from the Aboriginal perspective, it was only logical to keep attacking an opponent following his surrender. How else could you achieve victory?

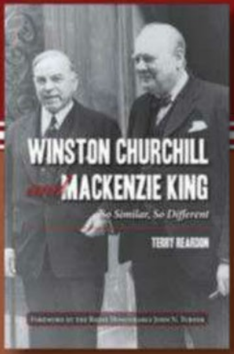
MacLeod's book is a valuable addition to the canon of literature on the Seven Years War. The only failings are the lack of colour illustrations and the poor reproduction quality of many of the maps in the book. Some are so blurry as to be unreadable. This is a small complaint compared to the fine writing, but significant nonetheless.

— Mark Reid



SMOKE SIGNALS
The Native Takeback of North America's Tobacco Industry
by Jim Poling, Sr.

A compelling look at tobacco's uses and abuses from its Native origins to today's controversies. *Smoke Signals* traces its checkered history in North America.



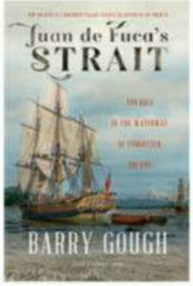
WINSTON CHURCHILL AND MACKENZIE KING
So Similar, So Different
by Terry Reardon

This is the story of the complex, fifty-year relationship between the two world leaders during one of the greatest crises in human history. The book sheds new light on Anglo-Canadian political relations in the period preceding World War II and also examines their influence on the progress of their countries during that period.

AVAILABLE FROM YOUR FAVOURITE BOOKSELLER AND AS EBOOKS.

40 years
DUNDURN
Defining Canada

CANADA'S HISTORY BOOK & GIFT GUIDE 2012



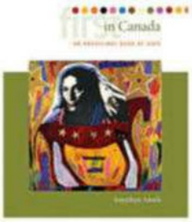
Juan de Fuca's Strait

Voyages in the Waterway of Forgotten Dreams

By Barry Gough

Spanning a café in Venice to the "the backside of America," here is a chapter from history brought alive by those characters whose dealings and adventures shaped this age of exploration. A sea venture involving piracy, political loyalty and betrayal, all bound in a web of international intrigue, *Juan de Fuca's Strait* is an indispensable contribution to the history of discovery on the Northwest Coast.

$32.95. CLOTH. 288 PGS.
40+ B&W MAPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS
HISTORY, 6 X 9 INCHES
ISBN 978-1-55017-573-8
HARBOUR PUBLISHING
WWW.HARBOURPUBLISHING.COM



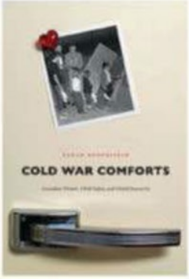
First in Canada

An Aboriginal Book of Days

By Jonathan Anuik

First in Canada will take readers through one calendar year of Aboriginal history, providing visuals and details of past and contemporary achievements and challenges of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada. This personal schedule book contains beautiful Aboriginal works of art and will serve as a reminder of the importance of First Peoples to the ongoing cultural dynamic in Canada.

$24.95. HARDCOVER. 200 PGS.
PUBLISHED AUGUST 2011
ISBN 9780889772403
CPRC PRESS



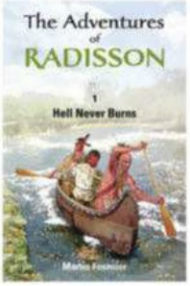
Cold War Comforts

Canadian Women, Child Safety, and Global Insecurity

By Tarah Brookfield

"A compelling Cold War history whose engaging portraits — bomb-shelter civil defence enthusiasts, radical and anti-Communist child welfare crusaders, 'ordinary' mothers donating a baby tooth for radiation testing … and the foster and adoptive mothers of children in the Cold War's hot spots — breathe life into this analysis of maternalism and its links, both positive and problematic, to women's nationalist and internationalist child-saving agendas." — Franca Iacovetta, president, Berkshire Conference of Women Historians

$39.95. PAPERBACK. 306 PGS.
25 BLACK-AND-WHITE ILLUSTRATIONS
PUBLISHED APRIL 2012
ISBN 978-1-55458-623-3
WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY PRESS



The Adventures of Radisson 1

Hell Never Burns

By Martin Fournier (translated by Peter McCambridge)

This historical YA thriller tells the breathtaking story of North America's most famous explorer, fur trader and coureur de bois. Readers accompany Radisson, as both a 15-year-old Frenchman in Trois-Rivières and an adopted Iroquois warrior canoeing rivers and lakes and portaging across mountains. Ages 14 and up.

* GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD
FOR CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
$19.95. PAPERBACK. 232 PGS.
ISBN 978-1-926824-54-3
(ALL EBOOK FORMATS)
BARAKA BOOKS

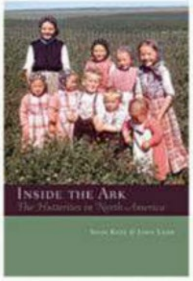
Canadian Folk Art to 1950

By John A. Fleming & Michael J. Rowan

James A. Chambers, Photographer

A daring and beautifully articulated re-examination of Canada's material heritage with over 425 eye-catching, previously unpublished colour photographs.

$45 PAPERBACK, $75 CLOTH. 600 PGS.
9 X 9 INCHES
498 COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS
NOTES, BIBLIOGRAPHY, INDEX
CO-PUBLISHED WITH THE CANADIAN
MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION
ISBN 978-0-88864-556-2 PAPER
ISBN 978-0-88864-630-9 CLOTH
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA PRESS
WWW.UAP.UALBERTA.CA



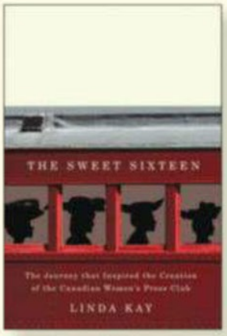
Inside the Ark

The Hutterites in Canada and the United States

By Yossi Katz and John Lehr

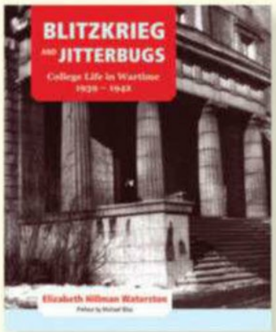
Based on decades of extensive fieldwork, *Inside the Ark* tells the story of the Hutterites, the world's longest-lasting and most successful communal society, and examines the historical process of change within Hutterite society, as it has been confronted with the changing politics, culture, and technology of the host society.

$39.95. PAPERBACK. 433 PGS.
PUBLISHED JULY 2012
ISBN 9780889772823
CPRC PRESS


THE SWEET SIXTEEN
The Journey that Inspired the Creation of the Canadian Women's Press Club
LINDA KAY

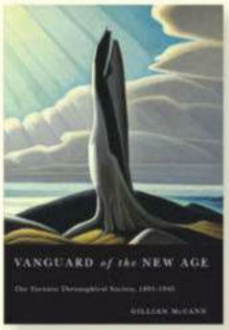
The Sweet Sixteen
The Journey That Inspired the Canadian Women's Press Club
Linda Kay
978-0-7735-3967-9 $34.95 cloth
Ebook available

"Without [the Sweet Sixteen] Canadian journalism would be less vibrant today. The women who came afterward owe them a debt, one that Kay has showcased in this fascinating account."
Literary Review of Canada


BLITZKRIEG AND JITTERBUGS
College Life in Wartime 1939–1942
Elizabeth Hillman Waterston

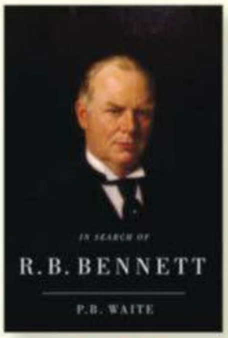
Blitzkrieg and Jitterbugs
College Life in Wartime, 1939–1942
Elizabeth Hillman Waterston
Preface by Michael Bliss
978-0-7735-3976-1 $34.95 cloth
Ebook available

"… as a memoir of one person's wartime experience, it is an engaging read, providing a snapshot of life in English-speaking Montreal in the 1940s, and vividly evoking the disconnect between that world and the conflict unfolding in Europe."
Montreal Review of Books


VANGUARD of the NEW AGE
GILLIAN McCANN

Vanguard of the New Age
The Toronto Theosophical Society, 1891–1945
Gillian McCann
978-0-7735-3998-3 $34.95 cloth
Ebook available

The story of the small "new age" religious group that introduced Victorian Toronto to Eastern thought and theology.

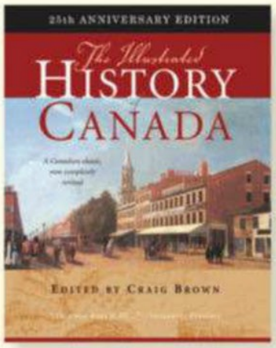

IN SEARCH OF
R.B. BENNETT
P.B. WAITE

In Search of R.B. Bennett
P.B. Waite
978-0-7735-3908-2 $34.95 cloth
Ebook available

An intriguing look at one of Canada's least-known Conservative leaders.

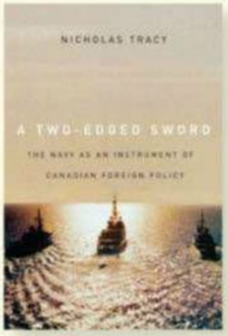
"*In Search of R.B. Bennett*, marked by Waite's elegant style and light touch, is a delight to read. It brings us as close to Bennett as we are ever likely to get, but there remains something mysterious about this brilliant, repressed, driven man."
The Chronicle Herald

Telling Our Stories


25th ANNIVERSARY EDITION
The Illustrated HISTORY of CANADA
EDITED BY CRAIG BROWN

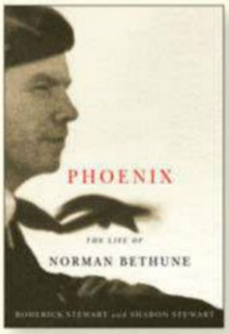
The Illustrated History of Canada
25th Anniversary Edition
Edited by Craig Brown
978-0-7735-4089-7 $39.95 paper

"This book presents the sweep of Canadian history, and a grand sweep it is."
The Montreal Gazette


NICHOLAS TRACY
A TWO-EDGED SWORD
THE NAVY AS AN INSTRUMENT OF CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY

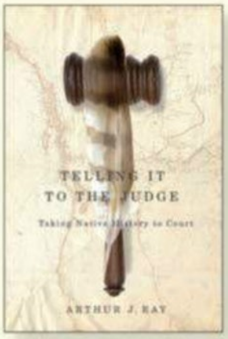
A Two-Edged Sword
The Navy as an Instrument of Canadian Foreign Policy
Nicholas Tracy
978-0-7735-4051-4 $49.95 cloth

An examination of the Royal Canadian Navy and its promotion of sovereignty through collective defence.


PHOENIX
THE LIFE OF
NORMAN BETHUNE
RODERICK STEWART and SHARON STEWART

New in Paper
Phoenix
The Life of Norman Bethune
Roderick Stewart and Sharon Stewart
978-0-7735-4081-1 $29.95 paper
Ebook available

"Thorough, objective, well-written, exhaustive and highly readable, *Phoenix* should become the definitive basis for all serious discussion of Bethune."
The Globe and Mail


TELLING IT TO THE JUDGE
Taking Native History to Court
ARTHUR J. RAY

New in Paper
Telling It to the Judge
Taking Native History to Court
Arthur J. Ray
978-0-7735-4080-4 $27.95 paper
Ebook available

"By telling his story and placing the reader in the courtroom, [Ray] provides a very informative, enlightening, and entertaining work." *Choice*

McGill-Queen's University Press | mqup.ca

Follow us on Facebook.com/McGillQueens and Twitter.com/Scholarmqup

Bridging Two Peoples

Chief Peter E. Jones, 1843–1909

By Allan Sherwin

Story of Dr. Peter E. Jones, who was one of the first status Indians to obtain a medical doctor degree from a Canadian university. As secretary to the Grand Indian Council of Ontario he conveyed the chiefs' concerns to Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald, most importantly during consultations on the Indian Act.

$29.95. PAPERBACK. 270 PGS.
15 BLACK-AND-WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
PUBLISHED JUNE 2012
ISBN 978-1-55458-633-2
WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY PRESS

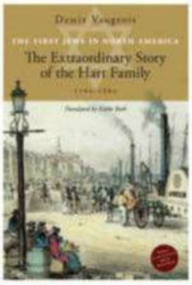
The Identities of Marie Rose Delorme Smith

Portrait of a Métis Woman, 1861–1960

By Doris Jeanne MacKinnon

Born during the fur trade era, Marie Rose Delorme Smith (1861–1960) was a pioneer rancher, homesteader, medicine woman, midwife, and mother of seventeen children. This is a rare glimpse into the life and identity of a Métis woman as she negotiated the changing environment of the western plains during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

$34.95. PAPERBACK. 195 PGS.
PUBLISHED JULY 2012
ISBN 9780889772366
CPRC PRESS



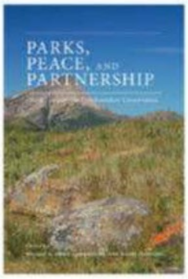
The First Jews in North America

The Extraordinary Story of the Hart Family, 1760–1860

By Denis Vaugeois (translated by Käthe Roth)

Based on seminal research, Denis Vaugeois recounts the magnificent story of the Hart family, situating it, and that of Jews in achieving equality, in the great events that shaped our history. Hart: first Jew elected to Parliament in the British Empire; the Hart Trophy; and much more.

* WINNER OF THE CANADIAN JEWISH BOOK AWARD FOR HISTORY
$34.95. PAPERBACK. 352 PGS.
100+ ILLUSTRATIONS, MAPS, CHARTS
ISBN 978-1-926824-09-3
BARAKA BOOKS



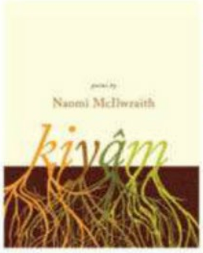
Parks, Peace, and Partnership

Global Initiatives in Transboundary Conservation

Edited by Michael S. Quinn, Len Broberg, and Wayne Freimund

Today, over three thousand protected areas around the world contribute to biodiversity protection, peaceful relations between neighbouring countries, and the well-being of the inhabitants of the protected environs. From Waterton-Glacier International Park, to the European Alps, to Lake Titicaca in Peru and Bolivia, this book provides examples of the challenges and successes associated with developing transboundary protected areas.

$39.95. PAPERBACK. 560 PGS.
ILLUSTRATIONS, CASE STUDIES
ISBN 978-1-55238-642-2
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY PRESS



kiyâm

By Naomi McIlwraith

An emotional and honest collection, *kiyâm* explores the beauty of the intersection between the Plains Cree language and English. As Anne Burke describes: "[McIlwraith] detours around historical attitudes, attempting to write in both [English and Cree], in a pilgrimage of transcribing and transliteration, circumventing the many obstacles of self and society in order to do so."

$16.95. PAPERBACK. 178 PGS.
PUBLISHED MAY 2012
ISBN 978-1-926836-69-0
ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Selling Canada

Immigrants, soldiers, tourists, and the building of our nation

By Daniel Francis

Between 1880 and the 1930s, the big railway companies, and the federal and provincial governments, launched three aggressive campaigns to "sell" Canada at home and abroad. With compelling research, insight, and wit, Daniel Francis documents how these campaigns established Canada as a destination for immigrants and tourists and turned us into proud defenders of Western civilization.

$24.95. PAPERBACK. 192 PGS.
8.5 X 9 INCHES, OVER 200 PHOTOGRAPHS AND EPHEMERA
FULL COLOUR THROUGHOUT
ISBN 978-0-9809304-6-7
STANTON ATKINS & DOSIL PUBLISHERS

IMAGINING WINNIPEG
HISTORY THROUGH THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF L.B. FOOTE

Imagining Winnipeg

History through the Photographs of L.B. Foote

By Esyllt W. Jones

Imagining Winnipeg is a stunning collection of early twentieth-century images from master photographer Lewis Benjamin Foote (1873–1957). From the building of the landmark Fort Garry Hotel to the turmoil of the 1919 General Strike, Foote's photographs have become iconic representations of the city and have influenced a generation of artists, writers, and historians.

$39.95. PAPERBACK. 168 PGS.
150 PHOTOS
ISBN 978-0-88755-735-4
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA PRESS

SOLDIERS OF SONG
JASON WILSON

Soldiers of Song

The Dumbells and Other Canadian Concert Parties of the First World War

By Jason Wilson

The seeds of irreverent humour that inspired the likes of Wayne and Shuster and Monty Python were sown in the trenches of the First World War, and The Dumbells — concert parties made up of fighting soldiers — were central to this process. *Soldiers of Song* tells their story. Important cultural history of early twentieth-century Canada.

$24.95. PAPERBACK. 225 PGS.
55 BLACK-AND-WHITE ILLUSTRATIONS
PUBLICATION DATE: NOVEMBER 2012
ISBN 978-1-55458-844-2
WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY PRESS

Business & Industry

Business & Industry

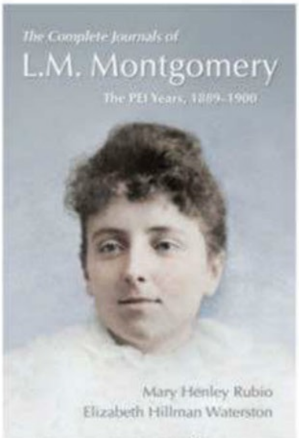
History of the Prairie West, Vol. 4

Edited by Gregory P. Marchildon

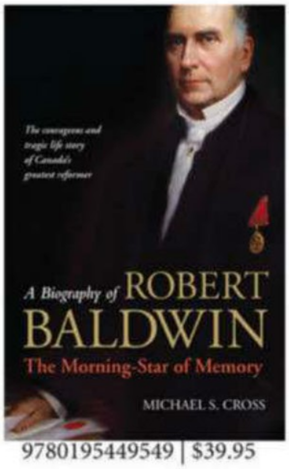
The essays in *Business and Industry* explore the lesser-known history of some of the earliest businesses in the Prairie West region. In these essays, we can glimpse the origins of the entrepreneurial spirit and business ethos that have come to define the business culture of the Prairie West.

$59.95. HARDCOVER. 383 PGS.
PUBLISHED APRIL 2012
ISBN 9780889772380
CPRC PRESS

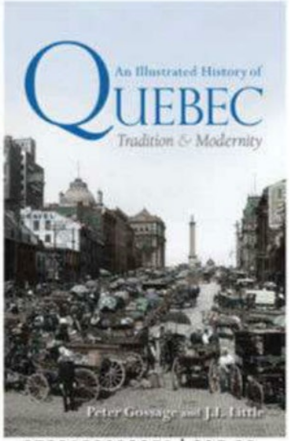
Great Holiday Gifts from Oxford


The Complete Journals of
L.M. Montgomery
The PEI Years, 1889–1900
Mary Henley Rubio
Elizabeth Hillman Waterston

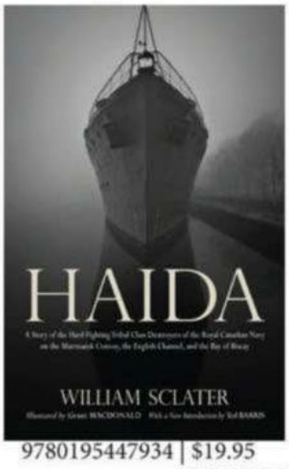
9780199002108 | $39.95


A Biography of ROBERT BALDWIN
The Morning-Star of Memory
MICHAEL S. CROSS

9780195449549 | $39.95


An Illustrated History of
QUEBEC
Tradition & Modernity
Peter Gossage and J.I. Little

9780199002351 | $35.00


HAIDA
WILLIAM SCLATER

9780195447934 | $19.95

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

A lot can happen in a day

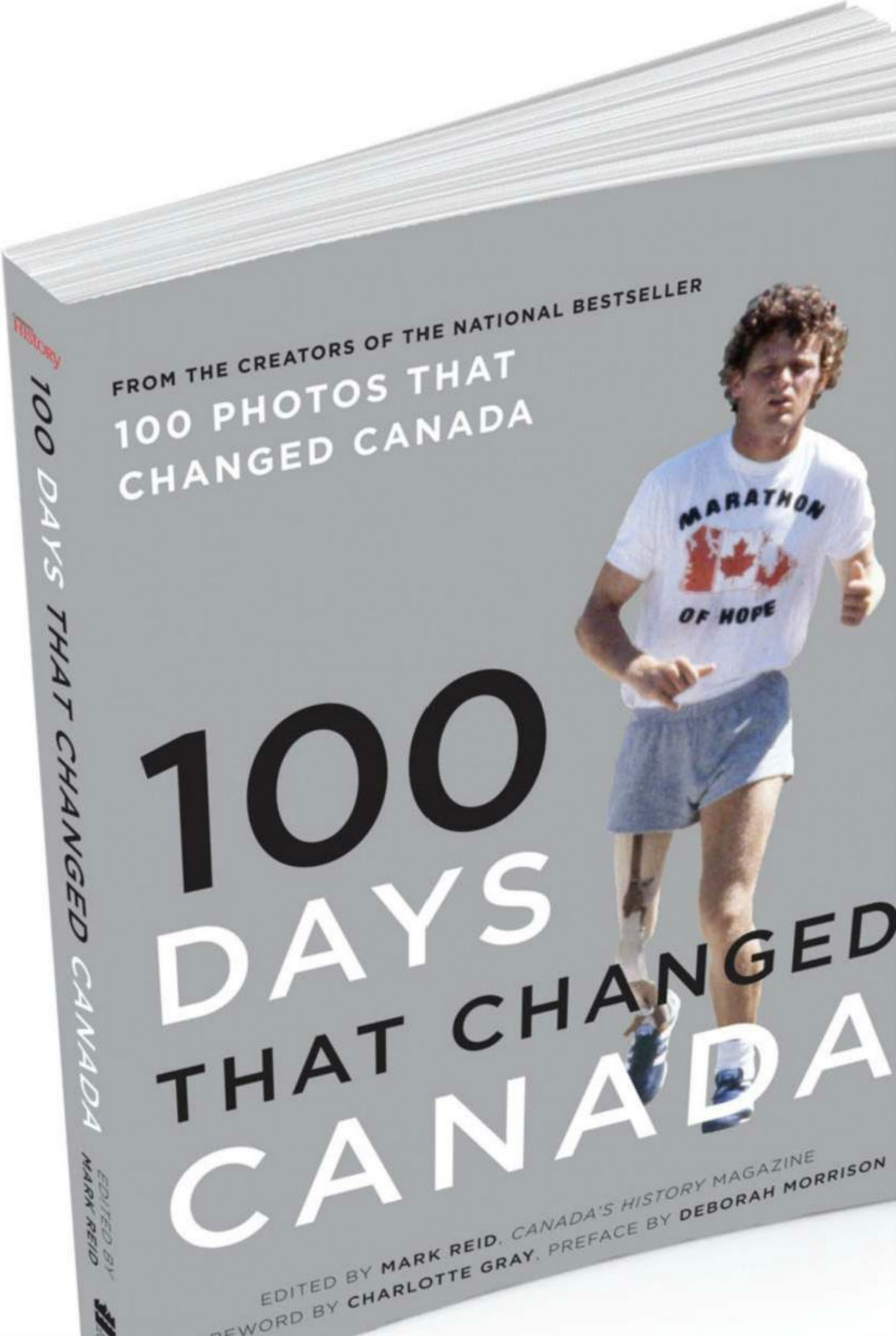
These are the moments that shaped us, collected in one volume for every proud Canadian.

INCLUDING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM

Adrienne Clarkson
Tim Cook
J.L. Granatstein
Charlotte Gray
Peter Mansbridge
Rona Maynard
Christopher Moore
Peter C. Newman
Richard Pound
Bob Rae
Margaret Wente
Brian Williams

Available where books and ebooks are sold

harpercollins.ca
@harpercollins CA
Harpercollins Canada


FROM THE CREATORS OF THE NATIONAL BESTSELLER
100 PHOTOS THAT CHANGED CANADA
MARATHON OF HOPE
100 DAYS THAT CHANGED CANADA
EDITED BY MARK REID, CANADA'S HISTORY MAGAZINE
FOREWORD BY CHARLOTTE GRAY, PREFACE BY DEBORAH MORRISON
100 DAYS THAT CHANGED CANADA
EDITED BY MARK REID

Historic celebration

Honouring the achievements of the 2012 Governor General's History Awards recipients.

FROM EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS TO VOLUNTEERS AND HISTORIANS, THE FOLLOWING CANADIANS SHARE A PASSION FOR PROMOTING THE PAST. *CANADA'S HISTORY* SALUTES THESE HISTORY CHAMPIONS.

Students of Crestwood Preparatory College in Toronto meet with a veteran of the Second World War.

ANDREW WORKMAN

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HISTORY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

BRIAN JAFFRAY

DEHCHO DIVISIONAL
EDUCATION COUNCIL
FORT SIMPSON, N.W.T.

Brian Jaffray

Brian Jaffray tries to provide his students with tools to encourage first-person research projects about Canadian history. But in the North this can be challenging, because Dene culture has traditionally been transmitted orally, in the Slavey language. There is a dearth of published materials, with one exception: the Berger Inquiry, which, from 1974 to 1977, studied the impacts of the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline. The inquiry also recorded Dene culture and stories. In June 2011, Jaffray invited six people who participated in the Berger Inquiry to visit schools in the Dehcho region. There, they delivered workshops that encouraged students to create their own stories about the inquiry. The students' work is now featured in a "River Journey" website as well as an archive of historical images and audio clips.

ELIZABETH PHIPPS

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL, SASKATOON

Elizabeth Phipps

Effectively teaching her young students about the unique historical relationship between indigenous and non-Native people of Canada was the motivation for Elizabeth Phipps when she started her Saskatchewan landscape project. Together, her students created and developed a living landscape of Saskatchewan that focused on the history of First Nations, the Métis, and European settlers. By creating a three-dimensional representation of their history and geography the students were able to see the influence of the natural environment on the development of different types of communities in the region.

MILENA IVKOVIC

NEWTONBROOK SECONDARY SCHOOL
NORTH YORK, ONTARIO

Milena Ivkovic

Milena Ivkovic's project was created for the locally developed Grade 11 Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity course. The focus of the lesson is on Canadian "upstanders," in particular an organization that lobbied the Canadian government to allow a group of Armenian orphans to immigrate to Canada in the early 1920s. These children were brought to Georgetown, Ontario, and became known as the Georgetown Boys. Students examine historical documents to develop a better understanding of this period and of the experiences of the Georgetown Boys. Their exploration of social justice issues inspires students to make a difference in the world.

JANET THOMPSON

GLADSTONE SECONDARY SCHOOL, VANCOUVER

Janet Thompson

For Janet Thompson, the best way to engage students is to give them opportunities to be actively involved in their learning by thinking like historians. Her students learn that the study of history is more than just a list of "facts to be forgotten" — it's a discipline that involves rigorous methodology. She has created an extensive body of work — in particular for her Grade 10 course — that is designed around the concepts of continuity and change. Students complete a number of units that include everything from creating a comprehensive picture of early pioneer life in Upper Canada to building a historical walking tour of her school's community.

SCOTT MASTERS

CRESTWOOD PREPARATORY COLLEGE, TORONTO

Scott Masters

Scott Masters encourages his students to connect with past generations. His initiative, the Crestwood Oral History Project, saw students interview both family and community members and then compile the information into an online historical archive. In particular, the archive documents the stories of Second World War veterans and Holocaust survivors. Masters and his students have also digitized interviewees' photos and mementoes. The project exposes students to points of view and specific memories that they would not necessarily find in their textbooks.

STEFANO FORNAZZARI SAN MARTÍN AND DARAIUS M. BHARUCHA

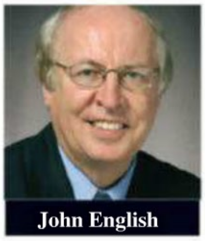
BILL CROTHERS SECONDARY SCHOOL, UNIONVILLE, ONTARIO

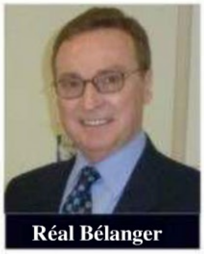
Bharucha, left, Fornazzari San Martín, right..

The project My Place in Canadian History: Digital Storytelling with Historical Thinking Concepts seeks to help students from diverse backgrounds find their place in the historical narrative of Canada. In the project, students take their respective family histories and put them into context in terms of the development of Canada. Students realize that they are a part of, and not apart from, history. It encourages students to be historical detectives and to use historical thinking concepts as a framework with which to interpret their place in Canadian history.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HISTORY AWARD FOR POPULAR MEDIA: THE PIERRE BERTON AWARD

DICTIONARY OF CANADIAN BIOGRAPHY


John English

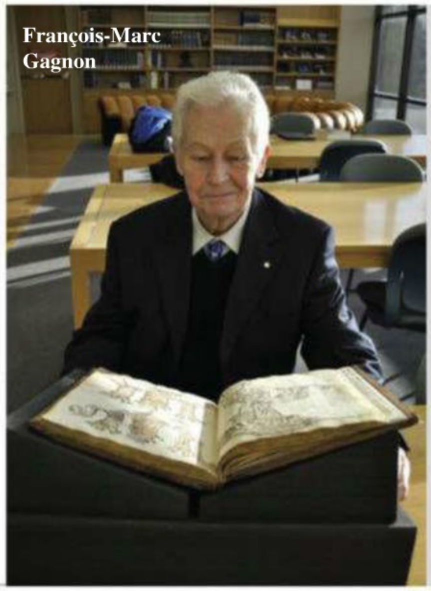

Réal Bélanger

Established by the University of Toronto and Université Laval in 1959, the *DCB/DBC* is the most important sustained research and publication project on Canadian history. Through its fifteen print volumes, its online version, and book compendiums about Canadian prime ministers and Canadian entrepreneurs, it has provided three generations of Canadians with a window to learn about Canada's peoples, history, and culture. The *DCB/DBC* is published in French and English editions. Led by general editor John English and director general Réal Bélanger, the *DCB/DBC* features more than 8,400 biographies; the online version, available since 2003, provides access to the entire dictionary as well as to selected biographies from unpublished volumes covering the period after 1930.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HISTORY AWARD FOR SCHOLARLY RESEARCH: THE SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD PRIZE

THE CODEX CANADENSIS AND THE WRITINGS OF LOUIS NICOLAS

This year's winners were François-Marc Gagnon, with Nancy Senior and Réal Ouellet, for the book *The Codex Canadensis and the Writings of Louis Nicolas*. The judges called the


François-Marc Gagnon

Codex "stunningly beautiful," adding that the work "can scarcely be praised too highly." The book brings to a modern audience the writings and drawings of a French Jesuit priest, Louis Nicolas, who explored Canada between 1664 and 1675. Gagnon is founding director and distinguished research fellow of the Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HISTORY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MUSEUMS: HISTORY ALIVE!

CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM
HUMAN LIBRARY

Bringing the past to life is the ultimate goal of any history museum. But what if you could also connect Canadians with living members of the future fabric of history? The Canadian War Museum, in partnership with CBC and the Ottawa Public Library, has done just that through its Human Library project. The initiative saw more than sixty people from the Ottawa region volunteer to act as "living books," sharing an expansive range of military-themed memories with the public. The Human Library project has redefined the meaning of "living history."

A veteran shares his story as part of the Human Library project.

La Meute Culturelle

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HISTORY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

LA MEUTE CULTURELLE
LE MUSÉE VIVANT DE LAFONTAINE

The Festival du Loup and the Lafontaine Living Museum were created to celebrate the founding families of the Lafontaine area, near Midland, Ontario. First presented in 2002, the annual festival includes music, art and historical exhibits while also inviting local community members to submit stories, documents and artifacts related to their shared history. The project has now celebrated more than twenty family names. The long-term goal remains opening a community museum.

CALGARY HERITAGE INITIATIVE SOCIETY
CENTURY HOMES CALGARY

Century Homes Calgary is a celebration of homes constructed during Calgary's first big building boom, which occurred in 1912. In its inaugural year, 508 households signed up to research their homes, display Century Homes Calgary yard flags, and create and display homemade yard signs with historical information. Participating homes were mapped on a website so that Calgarians could plan their own walking tours.

Calgary Heritage Initiative Society

Lena Rye

Mylan Champagne

KAYAK KIDS' ILLUSTRATED HISTORY CHALLENGE

The challenge is an annual story-writing contest for kids age seven to fourteen. English recipient Lena Rye, thirteen, attends Winona Drive Senior Public School in Toronto. Her entry tells the story of a Canadian soldier who suffered shell shock during the First World War. French recipient Mylan Champagne, eleven, is a Grade 6 student at École Léonce Boivin in Les Éboulements, Quebec. His entry tells the story of the 1759 Battle of the Plains of Abraham.

Begbie Canadian History Contest

Presented by the Begbie Canadian History Society, the contest promotes interest in history among young Canadians. Contestants are asked to complete a two-hour-long questionnaire that includes multiple-choice questions and essay writing. The 2012 English winner is Scott Peverelle of Seaquam Secondary School in Delta, B.C. The French winner is Corwan Groux, of St. Catharines, Ontario.

Scott Peverelle

Corwan Groux

Victoria Swain

Tommy Starr

Stephanie Wesley

Melanie Jewell

Canadian Aboriginal Writing and Arts Challenge

Presented by Historica-Dominion Institute, the Canadian Aboriginal Writing and Arts Challenge began in 2005 as a national writing competition for Aboriginal youth. It was expanded in the 2010–2011 challenge year to include a visual arts component. The 2012 writing category winners are Tommy Starr, Camperville, Manitoba (junior), and Stephanie Wesley, Thunder Bay, Ontario (senior). In the arts category, the winners are Victoria Swain, Bruce Mines, Ontario (junior), and Melanie Jewell, Fort Smith, Northwest Territories (senior).

Queen's Jubilee Medals

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's ascendancy to the throne, sixty thousand Canadians were awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, acknowledging their significant contributions in service to Canada. Some of the Society's friends, members and contributors so honoured include:

Board & Administration
(past & present)
Margaret Conrad
René Durocher
Charles Hou
Joseph E. Martin
Deborah Morrison
Desmond Morton

Members, Donors, & Friends
Thomas S. Axworthy
Judith Baxter
Lon Dubinsky
David M.L. Farr
Judith Fingard
Gregory S. Kealey
Philippe Mailhot
John McAvity
Jean-Claude Robert
Dr. Yosef Wosk

Editorial Contributors
Irving Abella
Denise Chong
Ramsay Cook
Craig Heron
Lawrence Hill
Michael John Ford
Cornelius J. Jaenen
Gregory S. Kealey
Susan Mann
Brian Maracle
James R. Miller
Peter Seixas
Veronica Strong-Boag

Educators, Historians, & Community leaders
Pam Calvert
Paul Gross
A. Blake Seward
J.D.M. Stewart
Jan Haskings-Winner

ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA
CANADA

We extend our heartfelt congratulations on such well-deserved recognition of your contributions to fostering better knowledge and understanding of Canadian history.

Proud to support the Governor General's Awards for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History

Congratulations to the 2012 award nominees on your achievements in the field of teaching.

TD

® / The TD logo and other trade-marks are the property of The Toronto-Dominion Bank or a wholly-owned subsidiary, in Canada and/or other countries.

Riel connection

Laina Hughes recalls her great-great-grandfather's fight against Louis Riel.

Rebelliousness has never been a great part of my family's makeup. I am proud to say I come from a long line of thinkers — opinionated, educated folks. But troublemakers? Hardly. Would we ever risk our lives for our beliefs? I guess we're lucky that we've never had to. But generations back, when my province, Manitoba, was but a wee fledgling community, one of my ancestors stood up for what he believed in.

A bearded Thomas Lusted, back row centre, and his family pose for a photo, June 14, 1898.

COURTESY LAINA HUGHES

My great-great-grandfather fought Louis Riel — and won.

Nowadays, Riel-bashing isn't quite so acceptable as it once was, especially in the left-of-centre Winnipeg neighbourhood in which I was raised — a neighbourhood that coincidentally, was named for the colonel (Garnet Wolseley) who led the army against Riel in 1870. Known as the Red River Rebellion, the Métis uprising led by Riel is today often referred to as the Red River Resistance. And Manitoba's mid-winter holiday — the third Monday of February — officially restores Riel's legacy by celebrating him as the "father of Manitoba."

My ancestor has also been immortalized — albeit on a smaller scale. In an area once known as Winnipeg's red-light district, Lusted Street commemorates my family's biggest badass.

Thomas Lusted was born in Kent County, England, in 1841 and made a name for himself in the Red River Settlement as a carriage-maker. The Manitoba Historical Society describes him as Manitoba's first baker, though my grandmother denies this. And, if my baking skills are any indication, this was not a trait that made it into my genetic composition.

Lusted's story has been passed down through generations. How much of it is true and how much is family lore is up for debate. Luckily for me, his daughter (my great-grandmother) Annie McEwan was an amateur scribe who dutifully recorded her family's stories as she recalled them.

"The most trying time for mother and father was the winter of 1869 and 1870 when occurred what 'till recent years was called 'The Red River Rebellion' but is now more graciously, possibly more fairly, referred to as 'The troubles of '69 and '70,'" she wrote in memoirs collected sometime in the 1940s or 1950s.

The Lusteds had already dealt with their fair share of hardships. Thomas and his wife Hester had lived in small-town Ontario and, briefly, in Detroit, Michigan, before making the move to the Red River Settlement around 1866.

"Reports pictured a promising site just waiting [for] settlers to build a city," wrote McEwan. "My parents were among the earliest of Ontario people and some Americans [who] comprised the population of the tiny hamlet which has grown to be Winnipeg."

The Lusteds, along with the first two of their ten children, travelled to the settlement by bumpy Red River cart, suffering through hordes of mosquitoes, continuous rain, and a shortage of food.

When Louis Riel formed his provisional government, my great-great-grandfather made it his mission to oppose it.

It was the "Transfer Period," wrote McEwan, "When Riel took over the reins of government … and made it very uncomfortable for any and all who dared oppose his decisions." As Lusted was part of the group who openly opposed Riel, he was captured, along with other rebels from the Canadian Party, and surrendered to Riel's men in the home of John Christian Schultz one December day in 1869.

Lusted and the other conspirators were incarcerated at Upper Fort Garry. "Father … with the rest, was marched to the Fort to be imprisoned, but in the dusk of the December afternoon, stepped out of his ranks, picked up a sack of frozen vegetables, slung them over his shoulder and mingled with the crowd in the yard," wrote McEwan.

Luckily for Lusted, a nearby friend spotted him and helped disguise his face with soot from the bottom of a teakettle. Lusted then was hustled into hiding at the home of another friend, a blacksmith named Henry Johnston.

When Riel's men stormed the home, Lusted was tucked safely in the cellar. As the men ran their bayonets through the beds, Johnston sat firmly on a rocking chair on top of a mat that covered the entrance to the cellar, "groaning and bemoaning his complaint in language forcible, if not elegant," according to McEwan's memoirs.

Johnston arranged for someone to take Lusted down the river and on to safety. Lusted stayed in Ontario until he figured Colonel Wolseley, who led the fight against Riel, had reached Fort Garry. But when he tried to cross the border at Pembina, North Dakota, Riel's men caught him again. Lusted bribed them with enough money to get them reasonably drunk, and they allowed him to return to the American side.

He eventually made it to Minnesota, and once there he sent word to his wife to request an interview with Riel.

The story goes that my great-great-grandmother sat down with Louis Riel and pleaded for her husband's release. Riel agreed, saying, "If you promise me your husband will not make any more trouble for me."

According to McEwan's writings, Riel "held out his hand and she had to take it, much as she resented having to shake hands with him."

Throughout Thomas Lusted's struggles, his wife and children struggled as well. It was summertime when Lusted finally returned to Winnipeg, and he made up for his absence by quickly starting up a successful carriage-making business, the shops of which were on McDermot Avenue at King Street. He also became police magistrate and had the "unpleasant task of sentencing offenders." Funny how the tables had turned for him — from wanted criminal to law enforcer in a few short years.

To be tied to the wrong side of history is a unique feeling. One doesn't want to brag too much about being related to someone who opposed the founding father of a province.

Yet, to have such foolhardy, impassioned DNA coursing through one's bloodstream is nothing to sneeze at, either.

Laina Hughes is a creative communications student at Red River College in Winnipeg.

FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE:
DEAN OLIVER,
JACK GRANATSTEIN,
JONATHAN VANCE,
AND TIM COOK

ENBRIDGE
PRESENTS
THE 5TH NATIONAL HISTORY FORUM
HOW SHOULD THE GREAT WAR BE REMEMBERED?
OVER 14 EXPERT PRESENTATIONS ABOUT THE CANADIAN EXPERIENCE AT HOME, AT THE FRONT, AND IN 100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2012
CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM

PARTICIPATION IS FREE –
RESERVE YOUR SPOT IN OTTAWA OR ONLINE GO TO CANADASHISTORY.CA/HISTORYFORUM

Canadian Heritage Patrimoine canadien
CANADA'S HISTORY

Touring the Lachine Canal

This historic man-made waterway tells the story of Montreal's commercial past. by Penelope Johnston

The Lachine Canal, Montreal.

KEN KAMINESKY

For the history tourist, Quebec's Lachine Canal offers a pleasant glimpse into the past. The waterway goes around the treacherous Lachine Rapids on the St. Lawrence River at Montreal. Multi-purpose paths along the banks of the canal are popular with visitors who enjoy its stunning scenery and its many attractions.

We chose to drive along the canal from the old Montreal port in order to have time to visit two seventeenth-century museums. Had we not been pressed for time, we might have rented bicycles and rode along the canal's bike route.

The canal is a National Historic Site that stretches 14.5 kilometres from Montreal's Old Port to Lake Saint-Louis on the south side of the island of Montreal. We travelled along the south side of the canal, passing factories and warehouses that sprang up in the nineteenth century. Today, the buildings that housed them have become upscale condos, designer studios, and restaurants.

We soon crossed a bridge that spans a canal lock. Noticing a young boy fishing in the canal, we mentally wished him well. As we cruised along, the scenery gradually changed to parkland, with plenty of green grass and lofty trees that hearkened back to an earlier time.

French colonists first started working on the Lachine Canal in 1689 but had to abandon the project because of attacks by the Iroquois. Construction on the present canal began in 1821, and the first ships moved through it in 1825. It became important to Montreal's development, since it enabled flat-bottomed boats to reach the city, thus maintaining Montreal's position as the commercial hub of the fur trade. Later, in the late 1800s and into the early twentieth century, industrial development and the building of factories — sparked by the supply of cheap hydraulic power — made this a highly populated industrial area. The canal continued to operate until the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway led to its closure in 1970.

In the borough of Lachine, there are still cobblestone streets and stone homes dating from the 1700s. One of the area's landmarks is the Sisters of Saint Anne Historic Centre on Boulevard Saint Joseph, which houses a private museum. Built in 1833, the centre was once the home of George Simpson, the governor of the Hudson's Bay Company during its most prosperous period — 1820 to 1860. At the end of the street, the canal empties into Lake Saint-Louis.

At 1255 Boulevard Saint Joseph, we walked across a small wooden bridge to reach an old stone warehouse. Built in 1803, the warehouse has on display many artifacts from the fur trade. In a corner of the room was a large cache of pelts trapped by Amerindians and sold to fur traders. Bales of red fox, mink, muskrat, otter, black bear, and raccoon pelts were stacked up against the wall. In another section, we learned about beaver hats. Beaver was the preferred fur of hatters because it is warm and waterproof. Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, often wore a beaver coat and top hat.

Traditionally, the skin of a beaver was rubbed with mercury salts, which open the skin's pores. The fur was then shaved off to make felt. Unfortunately for the tanners, the mercury seeped into their skin, reaching their bloodstream. Over the years, their brains degenerated due to a disease very similar to Parkinson's. The expression "mad as a hatter" was derived from this condition.

We also learned of the fierce competi-

Entrance to the Lachine Canal, circa 1890. Photo by William Notman & Son.

MCCORD MUSEUM

tion between the Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company, which fought for years for domination over the fur trade, before finally merging in 1821. Portraits of HBC governors lined the walls of the warehouse, a reminder of the power these men had in the early days of Canada.

Leaving Lachine, we travelled south along Rue LaSalle and away from the canal. We passed picnic benches, a place for jet boating on the rapids, and kayak and canoe rental operations. So much to do, so little time.

At Pointe Ste. Charles at 2146 Place Dublin, we entered Maison Saint-Gabriel — a three-hundred-year-old farmhouse and one of the finest examples of the early architecture of New France. Marguerite Bourgeoys, the famed Catholic sister, purchased the home in 1653 to be used as a school for the filles du roi — the young women sent to New France by the Sun King, Louis XIV. This was the first school in Quebec. Bourgeoys also founded the Congregation de Notre Dame, a religious community for women, in 1658.

The farmhouse featured lovely polished pine floors, hooked rugs, pine furniture, and large fireplaces in each room. In one room, row upon row of desks and chairs remain as a testament to the building's previous existence as a school.

During the school's operation, its wards learned skills to support themselves and their families. Materials and artifacts in the attic provide evidence of the wide variety of skills that were taught here, including candle making, quilting, grain grinding, butter churning, and spinning and dying wool. As we headed outside, passing a lovely flower and herb garden, I was momentarily transported back in time. If only we had more time to spend here, at one of Quebec's most historic sites. *À bientôt, Lachine*! *À bientôt*.

Penelope Johnston is a freelance writer living in Toronto.

Building a Bright Future, together.

Scotiabank is proud to support The Governor General's History Awards Celebration Dinner benefitting Canada's National History Society.

We're bringing together the passion of our employees, the insight of our partners and the spirit of our communities. Through the Scotiabank Bright Future program, our global charitable efforts are aimed at being actively responsive to the needs of local communities, at a grassroots level.

Help out, follow, or apply for funding at scotiabank.com/brightfuture
Together, we can build a bright future for everyone.

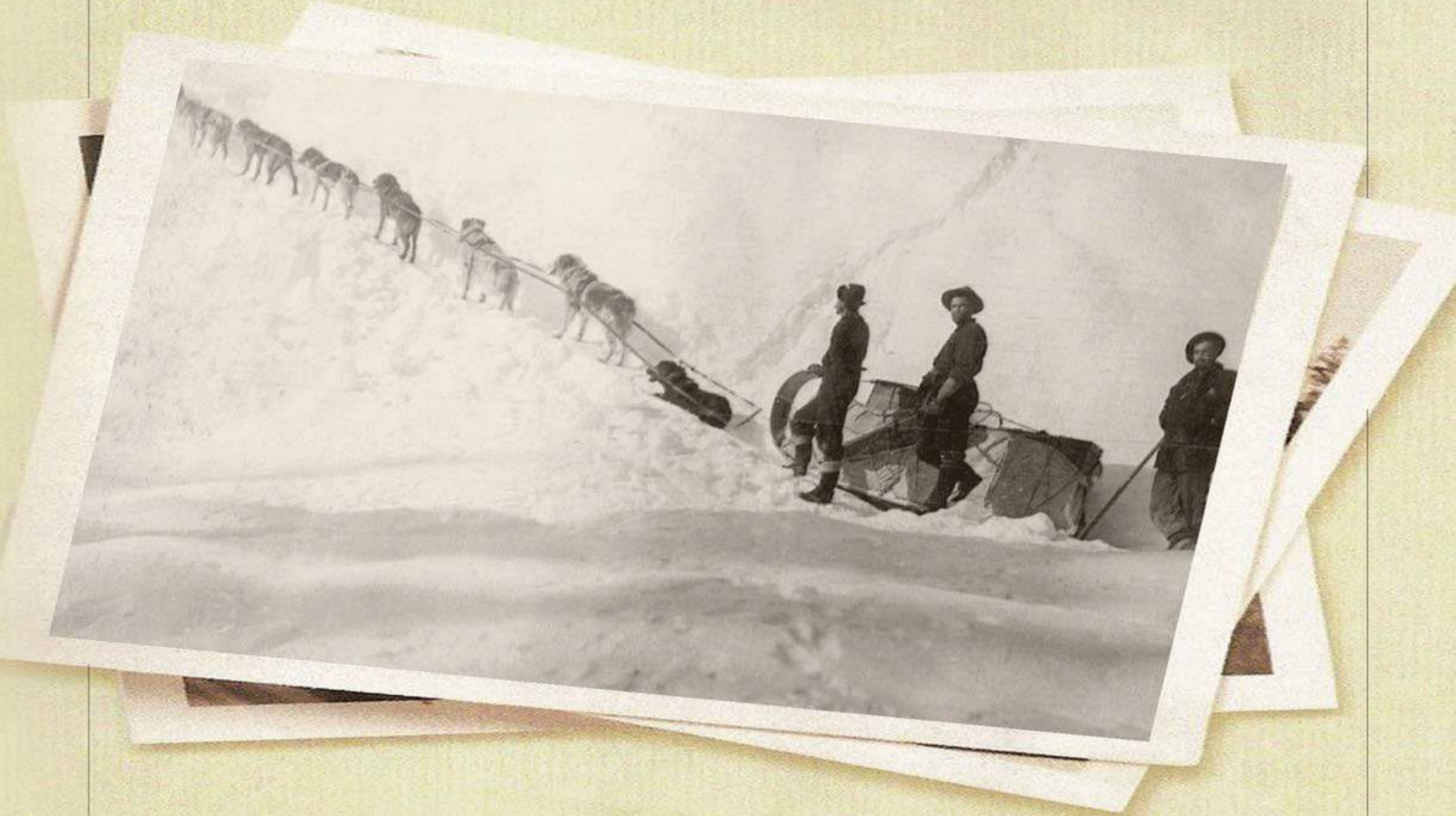
Scotiabank Bright Future™

Scotiabank®

™ Trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. Trademarks used under authorization and control of The Bank of Nova Scotia.
® Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

Margaret Orlando is the granddaughter of Thomas Brewer. She resides in Prince George, British Columbia. Text by Beverley Tallon.

Neither sleet nor snow

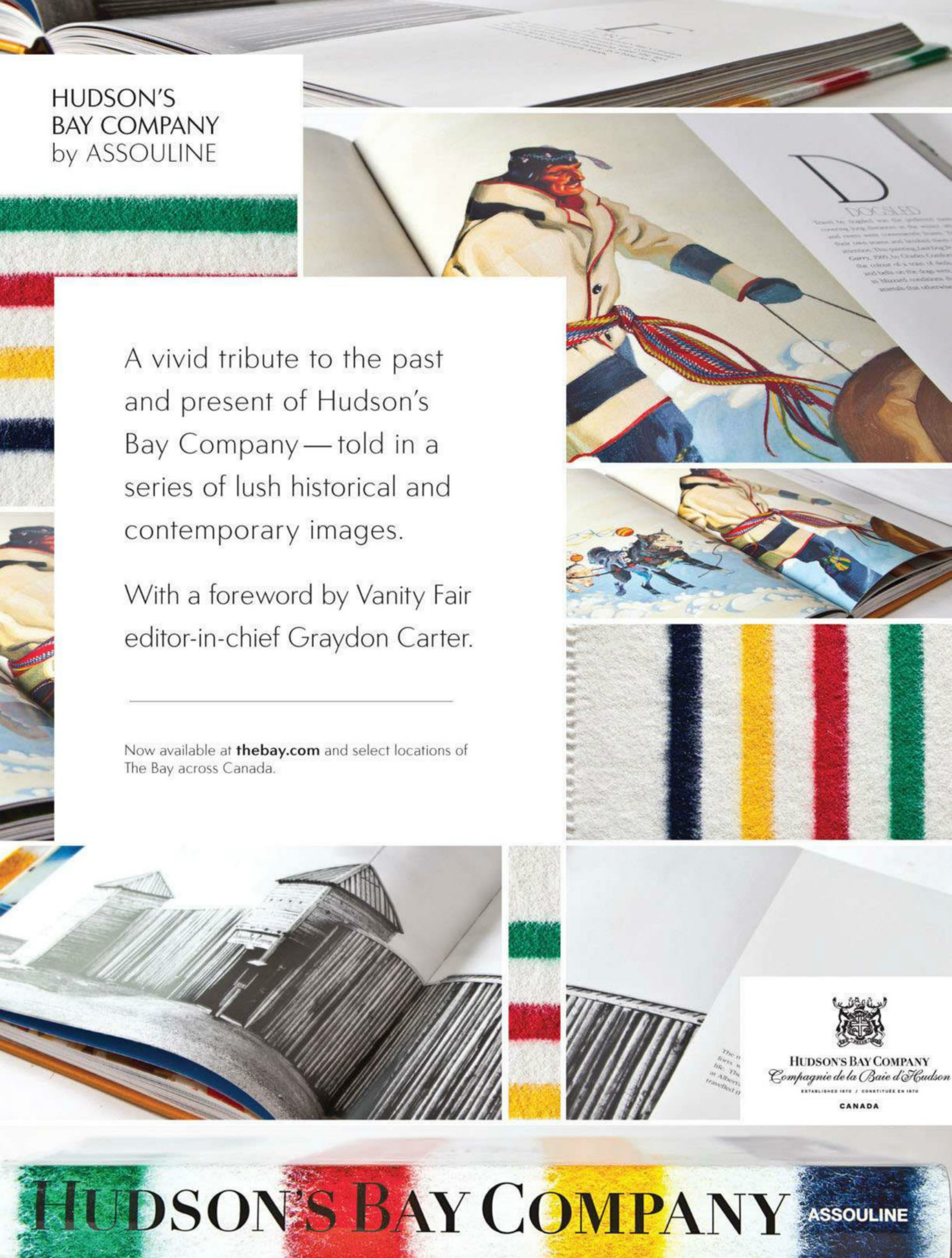


Thomas Wellington Brewer (centre) was a member of the BC Forest Service for thirty-five years. Prior to World War I, he held a mail contract in north-central British Columbia, transporting the cargo by canoe in the summer and, as shown here, by dog team in the winter.

It was a tough slog hauling the large load of mail up a snow-covered mountain. The men, certainly toughened by the elements, appear to be ill-equipped for the cold.

Brewer's career progressed to delivering provisions to cabins on the government telegraph supply line from Hazelton to Telegraph Creek and then to the job of forest ranger in Burns Lake, where crews of local farmers arrived on foot or by horse and buggy to fight fires with their own shovels. In 1929 he was transferred to Nelson, B.C., working as a supervisor until his retirement in 1948.

Do you have an old photograph that captures a moment, important or ordinary, in Canada's history? If you would like to submit it for possible publication, have it copied (please don't send priceless originals) and mail it to Album, c/o Canada's History, Bryce Hall, Main Floor, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9. Or email your submission to album@CanadasHistory.ca. Include a brief description of the photo, including its date and location. If possible, identify people in the photograph and provide further information about the event or situation illustrated. To have your posted submission returned, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



HUDSON'S
BAY COMPANY
by ASSOULINE

A vivid tribute to the past and present of Hudson's Bay Company — told in a series of lush historical and contemporary images.

With a foreword by Vanity Fair editor-in-chief Graydon Carter.

Now available at **thebay.com** and select locations of The Bay across Canada.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY
Compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson
ESTABLISHED 1670 / CONSTITUÉE EN 1670
CANADA

WHERE SELF EXPRESSION BUILDS SELF ESTEEM
GLOBAL100
Proud sponsor of the MacKenzie Art Gallery Urban Outreach Program

Creative expression fuels young minds. Having access to artistic programs during the school day helps kids move in the right direction. By building self esteem. By discovering new talents. And by making school that much more engaging.

Canadian kids have taught us the value of creativity as a part of learning. That's why we're giving back through School Plus, a program that provides needed support for thousands of students in First Nations schools across Canada.

In every community we serve, we learn that how we do business is as important as what we do. These are the lessons that make us one of the Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World.

FIND OUT MORE

Enbridge.com/InYourCommunity

ENBRIDGE
Where energy meets people™